SHIBUTANI-KUN TOMO NO KAI

6

藤枝とおる

Toru Fujieda

9784757510593

ISBN4-7575-1059-4

C9979 ¥552E

1929979005528

雑誌50931-59
定価：本体552円＋税

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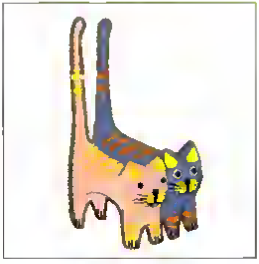
作/者/コ/メ/ン/ト

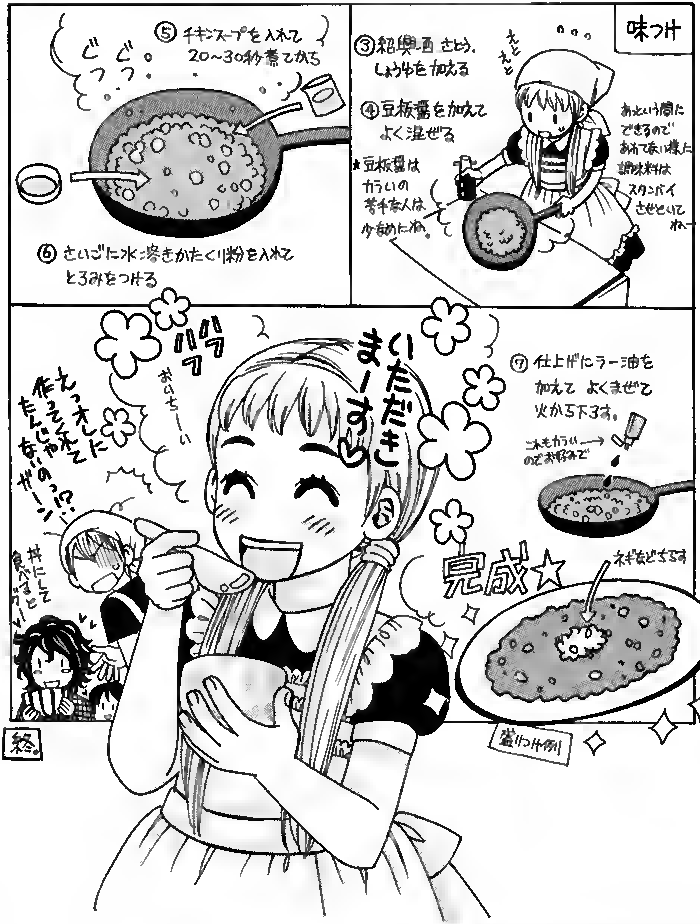


藤枝とおる

Toru Fujieda

Lately, small things keep piling up here. Surprisingly, silly things like that are what makes up your everyday life.

ニートでも作れる!!
カンタンレシピ
「雲南豆腐」の作り方
材料
4人分
・カンタンに言うと麻婆豆腐の野菜抜きだな。
でもすごく早くできておいしいしかもヘルシー
●調味料●
☆ピーマン 3コ
赤ピーマン
(キホン ニホン)
☆トーフ1丁
きぬごし
★しょうゆ 大さじ2
★さとう 小さじ1
★豆板醤 小さじ1
★紹興酒 小さじ1
★チキンスープ 100cc
★水溶きかたくり粉 大さじ1
★ラー油 小さじ1
★サラダ油 適宜
お好みでナスとか残りもの野菜を何でも入れてしまおう
★飾り用にネギもあるといいよ
下準備
★ピーマン(野菜類)を全て5ミリくらいの角切りにする。
トン トン トン
指周辺を大きめに切ると キレイ!
★トーフも大きめに切っておく
ビーせくずすのでできヒーた
調理
①中華鍋にサラダ油を入れてピーマン(野菜類)を入れていためる
レトライパンでも
ニーナがんばれ!!
ナベは遠火で
②豆腐を加えヘラでくずすようにつぶす
さくさく
れっつTRYね
ねんてん


味つけ
⑤ チキンスープを入れて
20~30秒煮てから
どど。
③紹興酒 さとう、
しょう油を加える
えとえと
④豆板醤を加えて
よく混ぜる
★豆板醤は
かういの
苦手な人は
少なめにね。
あという間に
できるので
あれてない様に
調味料は
スタンバイ
させといてね~
⑥ さいごに水と溶きかたくり粉を入れて
とろみをつける
⑦仕上げにラー油を
加えて よくまぜて
火から下ろす。
ごはもかうい
のどお好みで
パク
おいしーい
いただきまーす
そっそこまで本気に
食べなくたっていいじゃないのっ!?
丼にもって
食べるとウマ!
完成☆
ネギなどちらす
盛りつけ例
終。

SHIBUTANI-KUN TOMO NO KAI

6

TORU FUJIEDA

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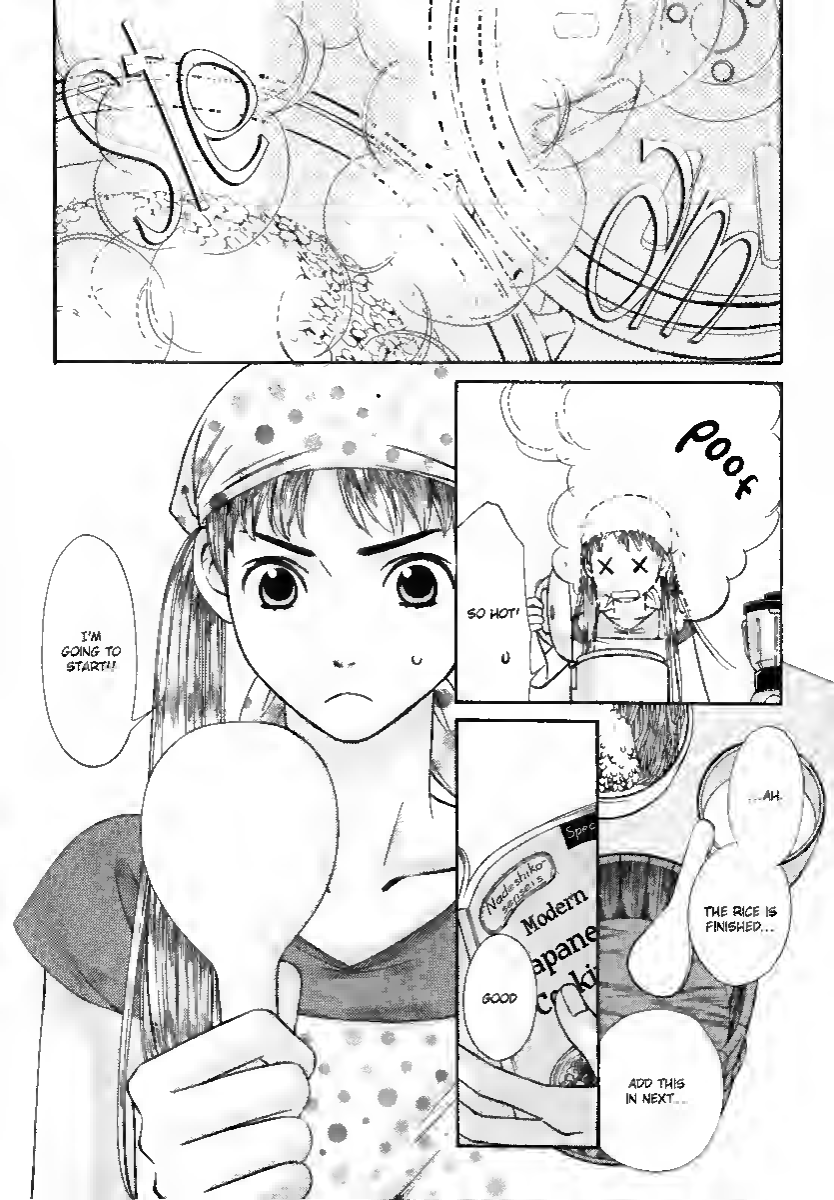
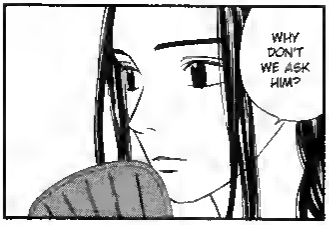
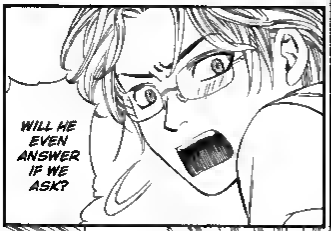
Chapter 26
SCROLL OF THE ONE I REALLY WANT


Poof
SO HOT!
I'M GOING TO START!!
...AH.
THE RICE IS FINISHED...
GOOD
ADD THIS IN NEXT...

OATMEAL
WHERE'S THE FOOD?
chomp
AH, SORRY!
I DIDN'T MAKE FOOD TODAY BECAUSE THERE WAS NO TIME... Hahaha...
WHAT ARE YOU EATING?
MORNING BROTHER.
I showered too much last night
MOR-NING!

I NEED TO GO TO SAKURA GARDEN
RUSH
RUSH
AH!
LET'S EAT THIS!
It tastes good!
FRUIT
EVER SINCE HE GOT AWAY FROM RANGE...
...HE HASN'T STEPPED A FOOT IN THE KITCHEN.
THERE'S DEFINITELY SOMETHING WRONG
YEAH, IT'S ODD
Japanese people are known for eating rice with miso
THE AGEHA FROM BEFORE...
...WOULD NEVER ACCEPT A MEAL WITHOUT RICE FOR BREAKFAST.


WHY DON'T WE ASK HIM?


WILL HE EVEN ANSWER IF WE ASK?

ROAR
DAMN YOU, RANGE!
HOW IN THE WORLD DID HE TORTURE AGEHA TO THE POINT OF AVOIDING THE KITCHEN?

NO MATTER WHAT, HE'S MY OLDER BROTHER!
AND I'M JUST THE YOUNGER SIBLING!
RIGHT?!
NO

spraaawl
spraaawl

I want to eat your cooking again
Brother complex
Brother...
Slump

fluff
THAT REMINDS ME...
I HAVEN'T SEEN SHIBUTANI-KUN FOR A WHILE.
He was always with me and not like a ninja!
They are so full of fun.
OH, LORD. THEY MUST BE SO HOT...
IS HE WITH RANGE?
BUT... HE WASN'T AT THE APARTMENT.
IT'S THE SAME WITH RANGE
AFTER THAT HAPPENED, I NEVER SAW HIM AGAIN.

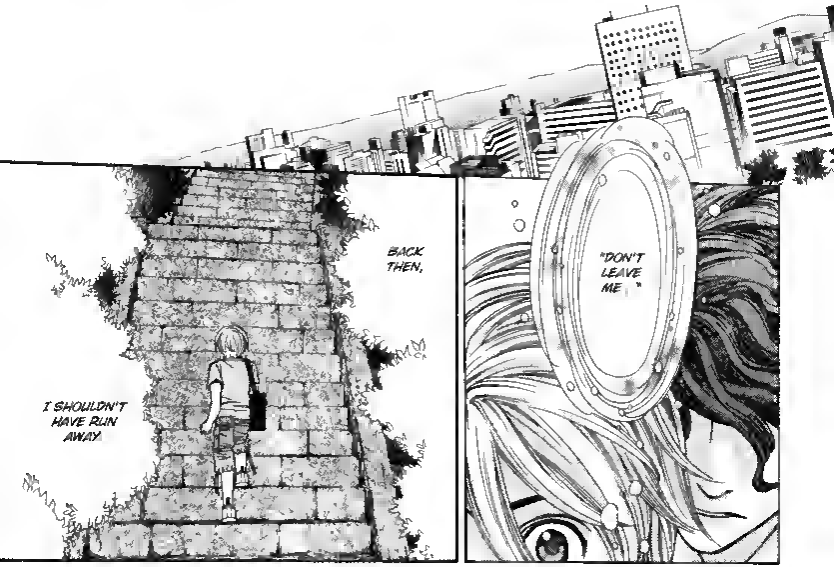
WHY IS THE WORLD SO BIG? YET WE STILL HAPPENED TO MEET THAT DAY TEN YEARS AGO...

THIS IS UNBELIEVABLE...

BUT TO COMPLETELY DISAPPEAR...

USUALLY WHEN I AM WITH HIM HE'S ALWAYS SO EYE-CATCHING TO THE POINT THAT IT PISSES PEOPLE OFF.

WASN'T THAT A MIRACLE?



WATCHING...

...HIS OWN MOTHER...

...KILL HIS FATHER

I THINK,

RANGE MUST NOT HAVE WANTED TO FACE IT...

...SO HE HID FROM REALITY.

RANGE SAID HE MURDERED HIS PARENTS,

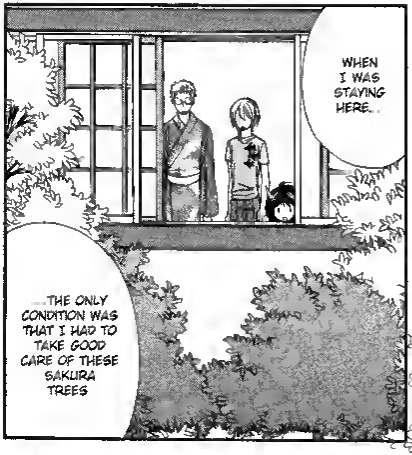
BUT HE DIDN'T

INSTEAD, HE HURT HIMSELF.

AR
THAT DAY FROM TEN YEARS AGO...
IT SEEMS THAT I SEALED MY OWN MEMORY
THAT'S WHY I FORGOT...
...THAT WE'D MET BEFORE...
WHY DIDN'T I...
...STAY BY RANGE'S SIDE THEN?

AS EXPECTED
It's all for U
what is this?
SINCE HE HAD NO LUGGAGE WHEN HE CAME
THESE ARE ALL RANGE'S THINGS
MANAGER KAZAMA
WHEN DID RANGE COME?

THAT DAY, HE STOOD AT THE BOTTOM OF THE TREE AND JUST STARED AT IT DUMBLY.
LAST FALL
SEE THAT TREE IN THE MIDDLE?
IT'S PROBABLY BECAUSE THAT TREE HAD JUST BLOOMED
BLOOMING IN THE FALL?
IT'S A WINTER SAKURA
THE WINTER SAKURA WILL BLOOM ONCE IN THE WINTER AND ONCE IN THE SUMMER


WHEN I WAS STAYING HERE...
THE ONLY CONDITION WAS THAT I HAD TO TAKE GOOD CARE OF THESE SAKURA TREES

FROM THEN ON...
THE SAKURA TREES
BUT LAST YEAR,
THE OWNER WAS HOSPITALIZED AND DIED

THIS HOUSE'S SAKURA
WAS PLANTED BY THE PREVIOUS OWNER
HE WAS CRAZY ABOUT SAKURA TREES SO HE COLLECTED MANY DIFFERENT KINDS OF SAKURA SEEDS

IT'S AS IF THEY ARE HONORING THE DEATH OF THEIR OWNER
FOR FOUR CONSECUTIVE SEASONS THIS GARDEN HAS BEEN FILLED WITH FLOWERS IN BLOOM
...HAVE TAKEN TURNS BLOSSOMING, AS IF THEY TALKED ABOUT IT
...NONE OF THEM CAN BLOOM BECAUSE OF THE HEAT
BUT IN THIS KIND OF SUMMER...
THE FIRST TIME I EVER MET RANGE...
...WAS ALSO UNDER A SAKURA TREE...
THINKING BACK...

BECAUSE OF THE SCENERY?
DON'T TELL ME
RANGE
HE CAME HERE?
THUD
RANGE!
AGEHA?

HURRY UP AND COME BACK!
I NEED TO APOLOGIZE TO YOU!
I PROMISE I'LL NEVER FORGET AGAIN!

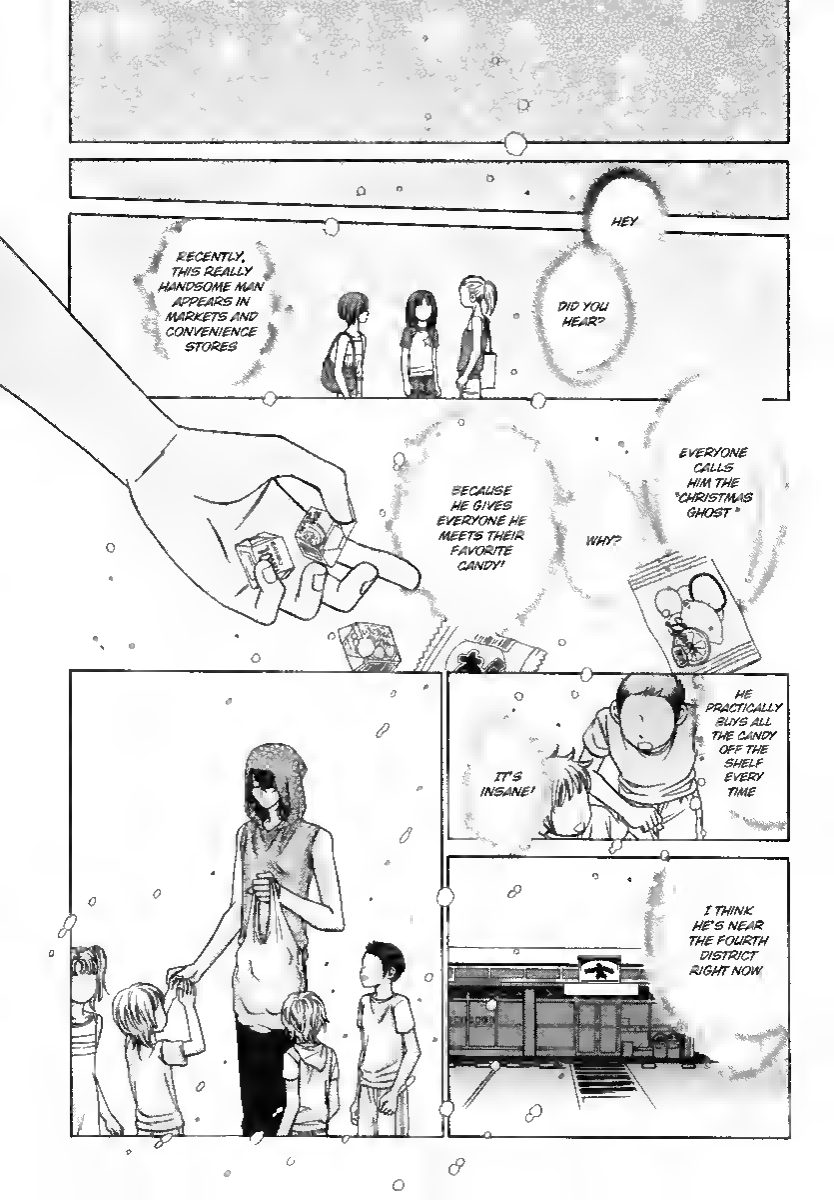
LAWSON
GRAB
GRAB
GRAB
EH?
I JUST NEEDED THAT ONE TO COMPLETE THE SERIES!
WHAT IS THIS?! THE ONE I WANT IS ALL GONE!
IS THIS THE ONE YOU WANT?
STUFF
STUFF

NO FAIR! MEANIE!
YUP.
REALLY? FOR FREE?
TO ME?
I'LL GIVE IT TO YOU AFTER I PAY FOR IT.
I'LL GIVE YOU ONE TOO
WHICH ONE DO YOU WANT?
REALLY?
THEN I WANT THAT ONE
OK.
AWESOME! HOW LUCKY!

THANKS, NINA.
ANY NEWS?
NO, NOTHING!
CREEEE
CREEEE
WAH, SO HOT
I ASKED WAKANABE TO KEEP A LOOKOUT FOR US.
flap flap
WHERE DID RANGE GO?
THERE IS SOME WATERMELON YOU CAN EAT SOME
THEN I'LL GO...
OK!

AGEHA
ARE YOU OK? ARE YOU TIRED?
I'LL GO CUT IT
AND CLEAN THE ROOMS
HUH?
WHY DO YOU ASK?
I'M FINE.
AGEHA
I HAVE A PRESENT FOR YOU.
WATERMELON MUST BE CUT INTO CIRCLES FOR IT TO TASTE GOOD
Hahaha
OH, YEAH I REMEMBER SOMETHING I HEARD IN JUNIOR HIGH

EH? PRESENT?
WHY SO SUDDEN?
TODAY BETTER NOT BE AN ANNI-VERSARY OR SOMETHING
IS TODAY A SPECIAL DAY FOR ME AND HER?
WHAT SHOULD I DO I DIDN'T PREPARE ANYTHING!
dizzy dizzy
UH UM
I UM
I CAN'T BRING A PRESENT WHEN I AM COMING OVER TO YOUR HOUSE?
roll roll
YOU CAN'T SAY NO!
It isn't a special day
Phew
Thank you!
OH, OK!
?
?
Wow
So tasty!


RECENTLY, THIS REALLY HANDSOME MAN APPEARS IN MARKETS AND CONVENIENCE STORES
HEY
DID YOU HEAR?
EVERYONE CALLS HIM THE "CHRISTMAS GHOST"
WHY?
BECAUSE HE GIVES EVERYONE HE MEETS THEIR FAVORITE CANDY!
HE PRACTICALLY BUYS ALL THE CANDY OFF THE SHELF EVERY TIME
IT'S INSANE!
I THINK HE'S NEAR THE FOURTH DISTRICT RIGHT NOW.

AH, DID YUI'S MOTHER GO TO WORK?
NO, NOT WORK
AH HIRO! WELCOME!
AOI CAME, TOO?
SHE'S BEEN CHASING AROUND HER BELOVED ROCK BAND ALL DAY
whisper
OH.
She must've changed one last time.
I'm off!
It was so hot today, too.
YAY!
WAH!
AOI!

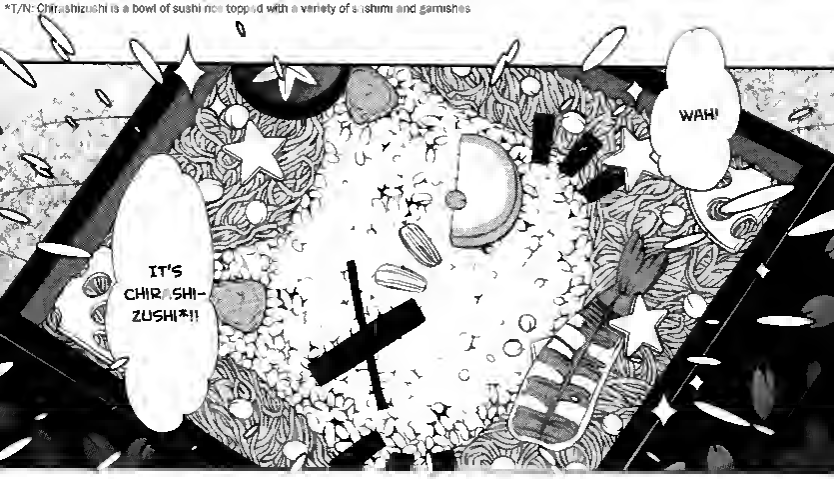
ALTHOUGH I WAS INITIALLY UNEASY ABOUT HANDING HIRO-KUN OVER TO YOU
EVEN WHEN THEY WERE YOUNG
THEIR RELATIONSHIP IS BETTER THAN EVER.
NOW I AM CONVINCED
PEOPLE ALREADY KNEW THEIR PREFERENCES
YEAH.
HIRO-KUN IS A FRANK AND OBEDIENT CHILD IT'S ONLY NATURAL THAT HE GREW UP RIGHT
Yes...
TOCK
I NEVER GOT ALONG WITH YOU.
MOM FINALLY APPROVES OF ME.
AH, HIRO!
I'M BACK!
BAM

YOU BOUGHT TONS OF CANDY AGAIN!
MOE!
WAH!
HIRO, I'LL GIVE YOU A TREAT, WHICH ONE DO YOU WANT?
Give me the swords
Welcome home!
MOE TSUBAME, YOU WENT SWIMMING??
YOU TOOK THINGS FROM A STRANGER?
IT'S WELL, THIS MAN FROM I DON'T KNOW U WHERE U
WHO? WHO GAVE THEM TO YOU?
TSUBA-ME HAS SOME, TOO?
Kyup
NO, SOMEONE GAVE THEM TO ME
MOE, TSUBAME CAN YOU DESCRIBE HIM TO ME IN GREATER DETAIL?
COULD IT BE
Ouch!
EVERYBODY GOT SOME!
IT'S FROM THE CHRISTMAS GHOST. THE REALLY HANDSOME CHRISTMAS BIG BROTHER!

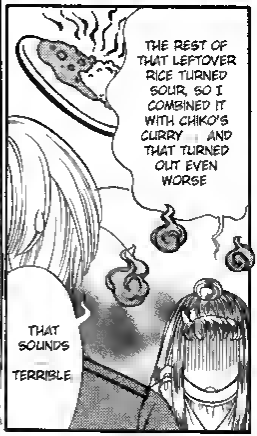
GOOD AFTERNOON!
WELCOME! COME IN!
It must be hot out.
EXCUSE ME.
It's cooler than yesterday.
2nd floor
NANASE, NINA'S HERE!
ODD...
I JUST PASSED THEM IN FRONT OF THE HOUSE'S GATE
It looked like they were going to buy something
OH, I SEE.

SHOCK
EH?
THAT MEANS...
NINA AND I ARE NOW HOME ALONE?!
WHERE IS YOUR ROOM?
HOME... IN MY HOUSE ALONE?!
SHOCK
Even though I've been to your house before, I've never seen your room
NINA WON'T THINK TOO MUCH OF THIS
LOOP^
I MUST BE TOO SCARED THAT'S WHY I'M THINKING LIKE THIS
It's OK It's OK
WHAT'S WRONG?
BLUSH
JUST A BIT OF HEAT STROKE
I got too excited
DAMN IT! HAVE I BEEN POSSESSED BY RANGE S DECEASED SPIRIT?
POFF
Dredan
OH, YEAH THIS IS FOR YOU
WHAT?
THE PRESENT I WAS TALKING ABOUT!
POFF

*T/N: Chirashizushi is a bowl of sushi rice topped with a variety of sashimi and garnishes



THANK YOU, MR COOKING GOD
I'M SO MOVED RIGHT NOW, IN MY HANDS
IS A HOME-COOKED MEAL THAT NINA MADE FOR ME!
Is the vinegar too strong?


THE REST OF THAT LEFTOVER RICE TURNED SOUR, SO I COMBINED IT WITH CHIKO'S CURRY AND THAT TURNED OUT EVEN WORSE
THAT SOUNDS TERRIBLE

CAN YOU PLEASE GET THE CHOPSTICKS AND PLATES FROM THE KITCHEN?
I'M SO HUNGRY WHY DON'T WE EAT IT NOW?
OK. I'LL EAT, TOO
STOP
I'LL GO RIGHT AWAY!
I DO!
WHAT'S WRONG? YOU DON'T WANT TO EAT?
I'M GOING TO EAT NINA'S CHIRASHI SUSHI!
NO PRO-BLEM!
I CAN DO IT!
IT'S JUST GETTING CHOP-STICKS
Kitchen
STUMBLE

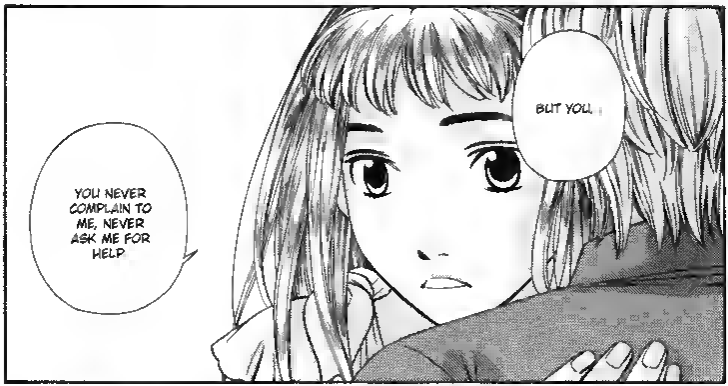
LIKE I THOUGHT, THERE'S A PROBLEM.
I THOUGHT YOU WERE BEING WEIRD.
gasp
EH?
WITH WHAT?
NOTHING HAPPENED
DON'T TAKE ME FOR A FOOL! TELL ME!
BUT
GIVE ME BACK THE SUSHI! IF YOU ARE NOT GOING TO TELL ME!
You suck, Ming!
WHY WON'T YOU TELL ME ANYTHING ABOUT IT?
ANGRY
YOU REFUSE TO GO EVEN ONE STEP INTO THE KITCHEN
WHAT EXACTLY HAPPENED WHEN RANGE KIDNAPPED YOU?

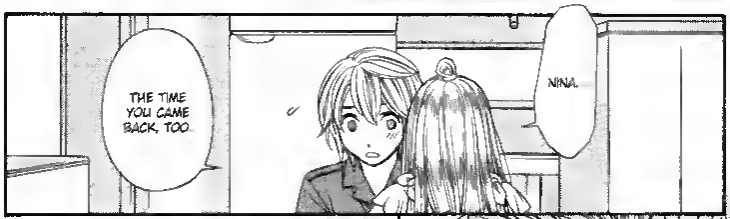
IT'S JUST THAT'S ALL
IT'S NOTHING
I JUST THINK OF WHEN I FIRST MET RANGE AND THE KITCHEN FIRE INCIDENT
MINE...
...REALLY WASN'T THAT MUCH IN COMPARISON
AH,
BUT COMPARED TO WHAT RANGE SUFFERED DURING THAT TIME...
ARE YOU SCARED?

hug

...?!
FRANKLY SPEAKING
What's wrong?
Uwah!
N-NINA?
AGEHA...
SQUEEZE SQUEEZE
I HAVE ALWAYS THOUGHT...
...YOU ACT TOO TOUGH.

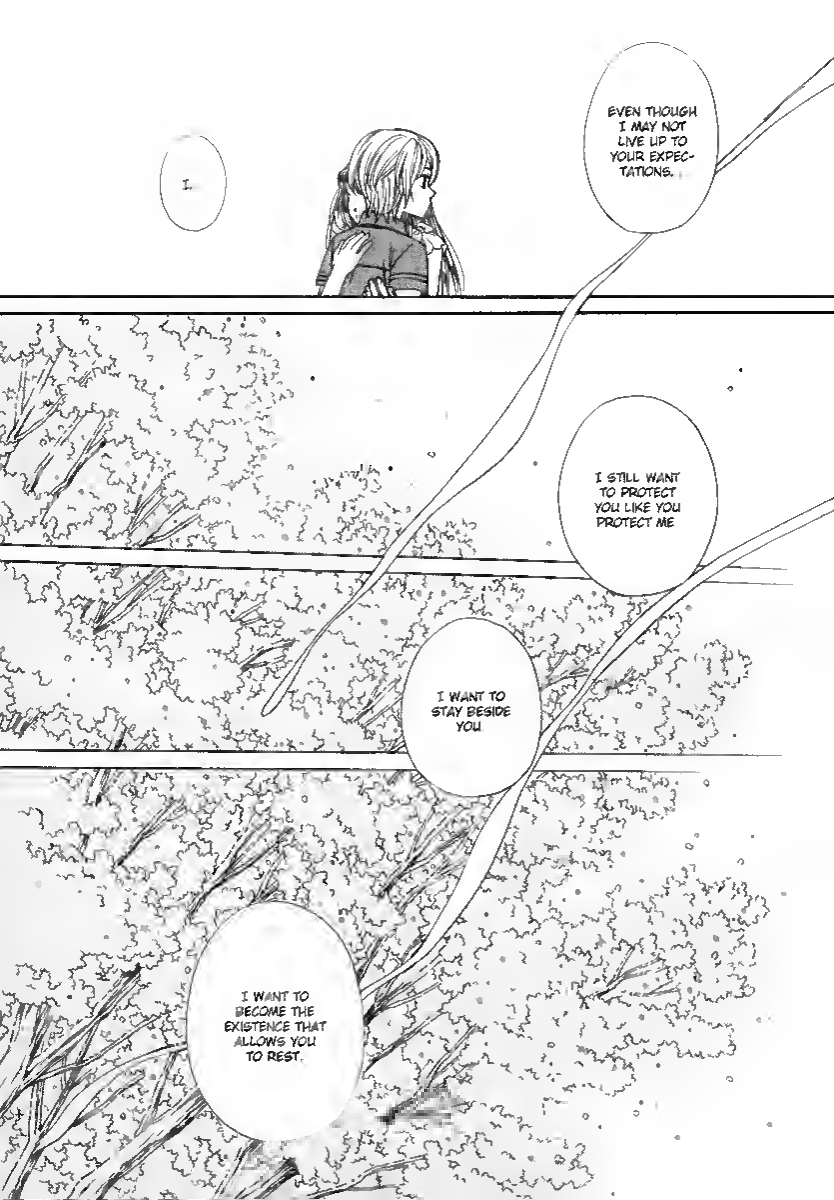
YOU WERE ALWAYS LIKE THIS,
FULL OF ENERGY AND SHINING BRIGHT.
EVEN IF YOU HAVE TO RELY ON THOSE AROUND YOU, EVEN IF YOU ARE ANGRY,
YOU ALWAYS HELP EVERYONE
YOU ARE ALSO ALWAYS BY MY SIDE
SUPPORTING ME, HELPING ME

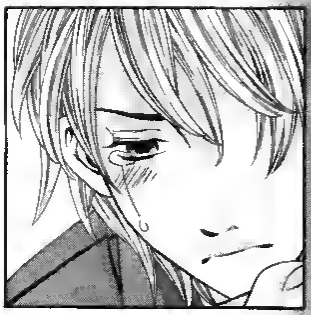

BUT YOU...
YOU NEVER COMPLAIN TO ME, NEVER ASK ME FOR HELP

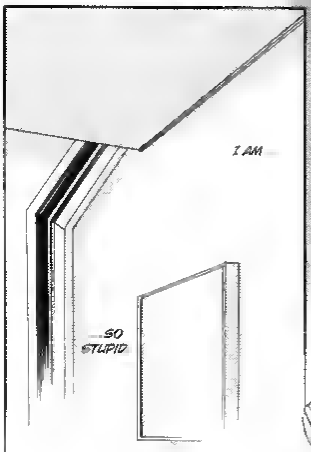

NINA...
THE TIME YOU CAME BACK, TOO

I FELT LIKE I WAS LOOKING AT THE OLD ME
IN FRONT OF NANASEI, AKANE AND YOUR FATHER, YOU ALWAYS ACT SO STRONG ON PURPOSE
THE ONLY DIFFERENCE IS THAT YOU ARE SO MUCH MORE HARDWORKING THAN ME AND SO MUCH BRAVER IN THE FACE OF EVERYTHING
SEEING YOU LIKE THAT...

YOU'RE BOUND TO GET TIRED ALWAYS WORKING HARD LIKE THAT...
ARE YOU SAYING...
...I CAN'T HELP YOU REST AT EASE?


I...
EVEN THOUGH I MAY NOT LIVE UP TO YOUR EXPECTATIONS.
I STILL WANT TO PROTECT YOU LIKE YOU PROTECT ME
I WANT TO STAY BESIDE YOU
I WANT TO BECOME THE EXISTENCE THAT ALLOWS YOU TO REST.





I WANT YOU TO KNOW YOU'RE NOT ALONE AT ALL.

NINA IS THIS WORRIED ABOUT ME...

...WHEN I WAS ALWAYS WORRIED ABOUT A BUNCH OF NONSENSE

THE THINGS NINA SAID TO ME...

...HAVE MORE MEANING...

THAN THE CONFESSION I GAVE HER.

TURNS OUT
I HAVE BEEN...
THE SAVIOR I WAS LONGING FOR,
WAITING FOR HER EMBRACE
...PRAYING FOR NINA TO SMILE AT ME

THANK YOU.
It's sweet!
Does it taste good?
ARE YOU A MILLIONAIRE?
SORT OF
WAH!
THANKS, CHRISTMAS GHOST!

NOW...
DO YOU ALL WANT TO GO SOMEWHERE TO PLAY TOGETHER?
WHAT ABOUT YOU, CHRISTMAS GHOST? CAN YOU STAY LONGER?
IT'S NO BIG DEAL
UM..
BUT IF I DON'T GET HOME SOON,
MY MOM IS SO ANNOYING!
IF IT'S JUST A LITTLE LONGER, I CAN FINISH PLAYING THE GAME!
I SHOULD STILL GO HOME
YOU KIDS THERE!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

IT'S YOU, RIGHT? YOU'RE THE ONE WHO'S BEEN AROUND RECENTLY AND ALWAYS GIVING THE KIDS CANDY?
DO YOU HAVE A MENTAL PROBLEM?
WHAT'S YOUR NAME? WHERE DO YOU LIVE?
Crap!
AH...
I...
JEEZ, IT'S DAYTIME AND YOU'RE HERE WALKING AROUND AIMLESSLY. THE YOUTH THESE DAYS!
IF YOU BOTHER THESE KIDS LIKE THIS AGAIN WE'RE GOING TO CALL THE POLICE!
SLAP
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
YOU, TOO! HURRY UP AND GO HOME!
DON'T TAKE THE CANDY!

SPLASH
I'VE HAD ENOUGH OF YOU!
DIDN'T I SAY STOP EATING JUNK?
SMASH
!!
!!
HUS-BAND!
AH!

GO AWAY...
DON'T COME OVER HERE!
MRS. SHIRITANI? ARE YOU OK?
THIS IS YOUR SON!
ARE YOU OK?
ARE YOU NOT FEELING WELL?
WAIT!
I...

...DON'T HAVE ANY PARENTS!
RANGE!
I DON'T HAVE A HOME.
MAYBE I SHOULD BE LIKE SANTA CLAUS AND LIVE IN FINLAND?
GO BACK WHERE?
I FINALLY FOUND YOU
FWOOSH
EVERYONE IS SO WORRIED ABOUT YOU
IT'S TIME TO GO BACK
DON'T SAY THAT
EVERYONE KNOWS ABOUT THAT INCIDENT NOW
NONE OF IT WAS YOUR FAULT!

AGEHA REALLY WANTS TO APOLOGIZE TO YOU, TOO
DON'T ALWAYS BE LIKE THIS.
A MOUTH FULL OF SUGAR-COATED WORDS
I KNOW MANAGER KAZAMA...
THE REASON YOU ADOPTED YOUR FRIEND'S CHILD,
IT ISN'T ACTUALLY BECAUSE YOU WANT TO TAKE CARE OF THAT CHILD.
WHAT YOU WANT IS...
...THAT "FRIEND," RIGHT?

I WILL DANCE TOMORROW.
THAT'S —!
IF YOU'RE REALLY WORRIED ABOUT ME THEN COME AND SEE
I'LL BE AT
HONEYBEE PARK.
OSH

"I'VE HEARD
THAT BUTTERFLIES CAN'T CONTROL WHICH WAY THEY FLY."
"WE ARE STILL IN A COCOON..."
"...BUT ONE DAY, WE'LL EMERGE AS BUTTERFLIES."

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QC: MegKF

Chapter 24
SCROLL OF THE BUTTERFLY, FLOWER, AND HONEY BEE

my interest is to wear weird hats
HIRO AT AGE 12
AWWW!
HIRO GREW UP!
Tobi son complex!

DUE TO THE APPROACHING LEVEL 19 TYPHOON A SEVERE WIND ADVISORY IS IN EFFECT
THE TYPHOON IS EXPECTED TO MAKE LANDFALL IN THE KANTOU AREA TOMOR ROW MORNING
IT IS ADVISED THAT CIVILIANS DO NOT GO OUTSIDE IF UNNECESSARY AND CHECK ALL WINDOWS AND DOORS CAREFULLY
YOU RAN INTO RANGE?
UM,
HE SAID...
...HE IS GOING TO DANCE AT "HONEY BEE PARK."
"HONEY BEE...?"
WHAT...?

WOOSH
ALL THE AMUSEMENT PARKS WILL BE CLOSED TOMORROW
CLATTER CLATTER
BUT IN THIS WEATHER
Honey..?
Hm...
IS IT A PLACE WITH A LOT OF INSECTS?
WHAT'S THE KEY WORD...?
I'm... sorry!
I should've... tried harder to bring him back!
WE DON'T NEED THAT GUY, ANYWAY!
HE WAS WALKING TO THE STORE TO GIVE CANDY OUT TO CHILDREN, WASN'T HE?
WE CAN'T HOLD HIS HAND FOREVER...!
DEPRESSED
DID SOMETHING HAPPEN WITH RANGE...?
There, there.
ISN'T MANAGER KAZAMI'S REACTION A LITTLE OVER THE TOP?

BUT...
BRO ISN'T RESPONSIBLE FOR HIM...!
I MUST GO
HIGH GEAR
BRO...!
Listen!
THAT'S TRUE.
RANGE SURELY WISHES TO SEE YOU.
I'LL GO WITH YOU!
RANGE SAYS HE'LL GO
YEAH.
THERE'S STILL A CHANCE

I PROMISED HIM BEFORE...
...THAT WE'LL BE TOGETHER TO THE END...!
You still can't forget him, can you?
I have never seen him like this before...
WAH!
MY BROTHER! MY BROTHER! UWAH! BRO...! BRO...
AGEHA!
EVEN SO,
I CAN'T GO IF I DON'T KNOW THE PLACE.
UGH
Honey honey Honey bee bee

WAH!
OW! IT WAS..
...IN MY POCKET...!
?
THUD
MAN, WHAT A TROUBLESOME GUY!
HIGH SCHOOL GIRL
MOM USED TO GET MAD...
I HAVE BEEN PUTTING THESE IN HERE SINCE I WAS SMALL, TOO
Stare
AGEHA?
AH...
AHHH!!

AHHHHH!
TAT
TAT
TAT
TAT
THIGH
I GOT IT!
CHIKO?
"GARDEN HOUSE"
THE AMUSEMENT PARK IN ASAKUSA?
The pretty famous one...
RIGHT! THERE'S A REALLY OLD ROLLER COASTER RIDE THERE!
IT'S THIS!
IT'S THE ONLY PLACE THAT HAS BEE DOLLS!
THE GARDEN HOUSE!
Bee dolls...
AS EXPECTED,
NANASEI, AKANE AND I WENT THERE WHEN WE WERE VERY YOUNG.
You two were still too small, maybe you don't remember.
MOM WAS STILL ALIVE...

...!
MAYBE I MENTIONED IT TO HIM...
...WHEN I MET HIM TEN YEARS AGO...
HIGH
OK!
WE'LL GO THERE TOMORROW!
ZOOOM
WOOSH

ROCKET COASTER REVIVE
NO CAN DO! NO MATTER WHAT YOU TELL ME, I CAN'T LET YOU IN!
AND WE DON'T HAVE ANY ARTISTS SCHEDULED TO COME.
BUT HE HAS TO BE HERE!
PLEASE!
JUST FOR A LITTLE BIT! LET US GO IN TO FIND HIM!
RANGE ..!
THEN YOU CAN'T GO NEAR THE AMUSEMENT PARK FACILITIES OK ?
THANK YOU!!
WAH...

A FLOWER GARDEN...!
WHERE IS HE...?
WHAT A CUTE AMUSEMENT PARK!
WOOOSH
drip drip
Excuse me, Ma'am, is it OK to have an umbrella?
THERE ARE SO MANY FLOWERS
THIS HAS BEEN A FLOWER GARDEN SINCE THE EDO PERIOD...

THIS PLACE IS SMALL, BUT IT'S HARD TO KNOW IF HE'S HERE WITH ALL THIS STUFF AROUND...
HE'S NOT HERE...
RANGE!
RANGE!
NANASE, YOU GUYS SEARCH INSIDE THE BUILDINGS.
I'LL GO UP THOSE STAIRS...
HE MUST BE HERE!
HE'D EVEN DANCE ALONE
HE'S HERE SOME-WHERE
FLOP

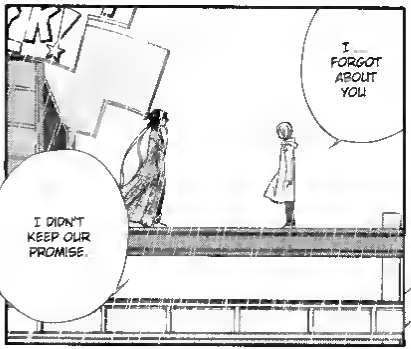
AH...
THE SLEEVES OF A KIMONO...

AH!
THERE'S RANGE!
...LOOK LIKE...
IT'S DANGEROUS!
COME DOWN FROM THERE...!
Wah!
HE'S ON THE TRACKS!
RANGE!
WE CAN'T RIDE THAT NOW!
IF WE RIDE THE VEHICLE OVER THERE, WE CAN GET UP ON THE TRACKS
NO USE
HE CAN'T HEAR US OVER THE RAIN
...BUTTERFLY WINGS.
IT HAS FOOT PEDDLES, SO IT'S OK!
HEY, RANGE!

SORRY!
GAH!
HEY, WHAT THE ..!
REALLY?! IS IT THIS ..?
PUSH
RANGE!
PEDDLE
PEDDLE
PEDDLE
PEDDLE
UGHHH!!

RAN-!
KYAAH
AGEHA!
kick
BAS-
TARD
...
RANGE!

RANGE, I'M SORRY


I FORGOT ABOUT YOU
I DIDN'T KEEP OUR PROMISE.

BUT YOU MISUNDER-STOOD
YOU'RE THE RANGE INSIDE YOUR DREAMS

WELCOME TO MY STAGE

YOU'RE STUCK WITH THE YOU FROM TEN YEARS AGO
...WHAT?
I'VE NEVER SEEN YOU BEFORE
I HAVEN'T PROMISED YOU ANYTHING
EH...?
IT WAS NOTHING
THIS

IT WAS...
...ALL JUST...
...A DREAM
THIS MEANS NOTHING TO ME
11
DO YOU... UNDERSTAND?
FROM THE BEGINNING
ARE YOU
SURE YOU'RE OK WITH THAT,
RANGE?

...NOTHING GOES THE WAY YOU WANT IT ALL THE TIME
THE WORLD ISN'T LIKE YOU'D EXPECT IT TO BE
YOU SAY...
...THIS IS YOUR WORLD
NICE WEATHER IN THE AFTERNOON,
OR ENJOYING A LEISURELY MEAL
THINGS LIKE THAT...
MAYBE IT'S MERELY A TRIVIAL THING
THIS IS A REALLY HORRIBLE PLACE.
BUT YOU CAN MAKE IT A HAPPY PLACE

ZAAA
EH?
BUT?
WHAT IF WE ARE SO DIRTY THAT WE SHOULDN'T EVEN EXIST?
EVERYONE'S
EVERYONE'S A PART OF THIS WORLD
I AM VERY DIRTY
I BECAME A MODEL TO PRETEND I WAS CLEAN
THAT WOMAN AND THAT MAN-THEY'RE THE SAME

IT'D BE BETTER IF YOU DON'T IMAGINE THAT EVERYONE IS LIKE YOU
IT'S BETTER I DON'T TRICK YOU.
DON'T JUDGE A BOOK BY ITS COVER
RANGE IS NO DIFFERENT FROM US!
I'VE ALWAYS CHASED AFTER YOU!
FROM THE VERY BEGINNING, I FOUND YOU HANDSOME
NINA!
It's dangerous!
I'VE ALWAYS BEEN WATCHING YOU!

YOU'VE ALWAYS STOOD OUT
I THINK EVERYONE LIKES YOU AND WANTS YOU TO DO WELL
BUT IN TRUTH, YOU NEVER LIKED ANYONE EXCEPT FOR AGEHA
WHEN I FOUND OUT, I WAS SO SAD,
BUT I UNDERSTOOD BY WATCHING YOU MORE
THAT WAS THE BARRIER YOU CREATED
I DON'T CARE IF YOU'RE A HORRIBLE PERSON...
I JUST CAN'T BRING MYSELF TO LEAVE YOU ALONE
I REALLY WANT TO GET TO KNOW YOU BETTER!

THAT'S RIGHT.
I DON'T THINK YOU ARE COOL AT ALL.

NINA.

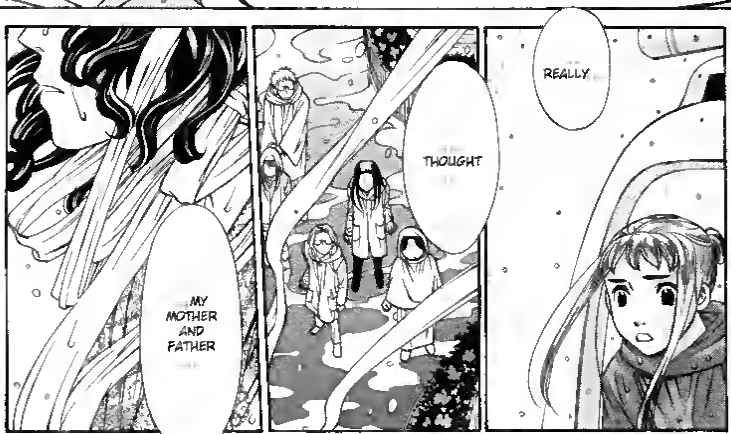
AH!
I TOLD YOU IT WAS DANGER-OUS!

AND YOU PISS PEOPLE OFF.
ON THE CONTRARY,
YOU'RE DEVIOUS.
BUT...
...WE ENTERED THIS "ALLIANCE CLUB."

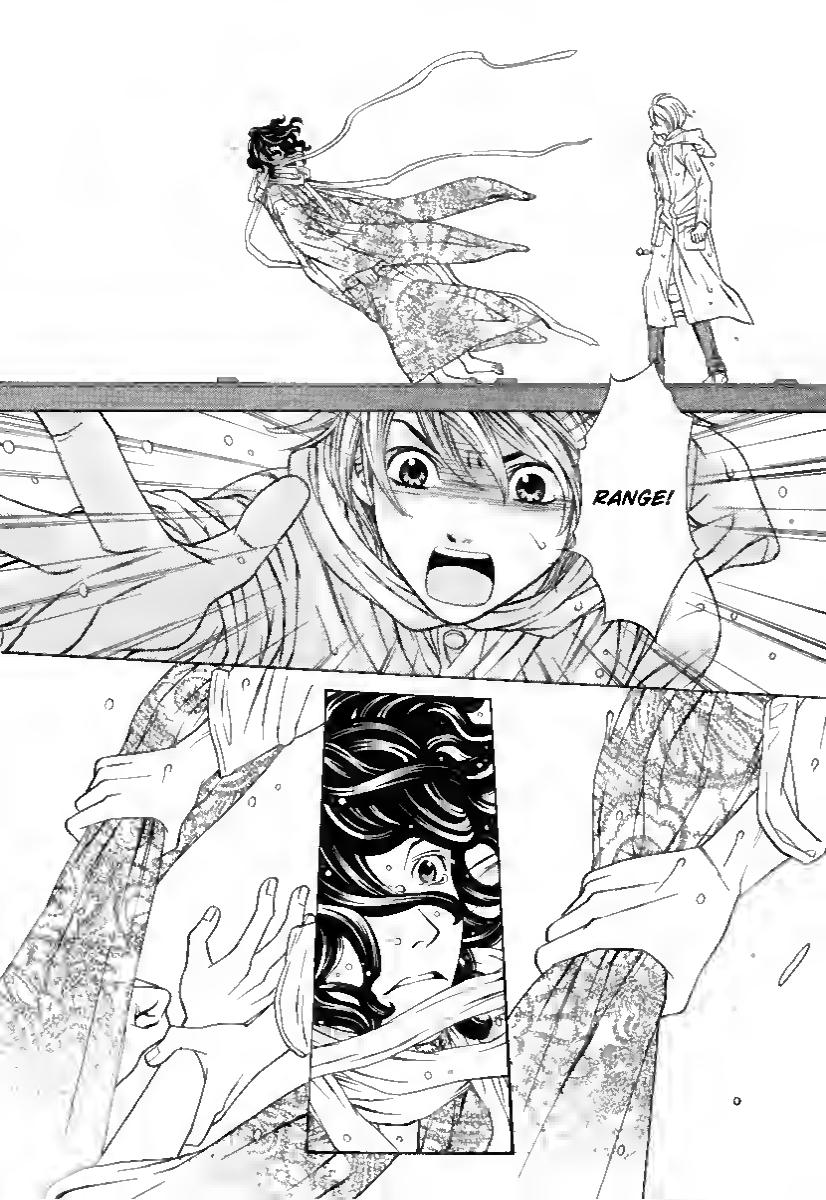
COME BACK WITH ME...
I WON'T FORGET IT AGAIN.
RANGE REALLY IS A BUTTERFLY.
...THAT'S RIGHT.
EVEN HE DOESN'T KNOW WHICH WAY TO GO

AND
I MUST HOLD ON TO HIM
...EH...?
I NEED TO HOLD ON TO HIM TIGHTLY
BUT THERE IS STILL TIME
...IT'S NO USE
I CAN'T GO
RAN-
BECAUSE

...I...
BACK THEN I


REALLY
THOUGHT
MY MOTHER AND FATHER

...SHOULD DIE.


RANGE!

BRO!
OPEN YOUR EYES!
AHHH!

RANGE!

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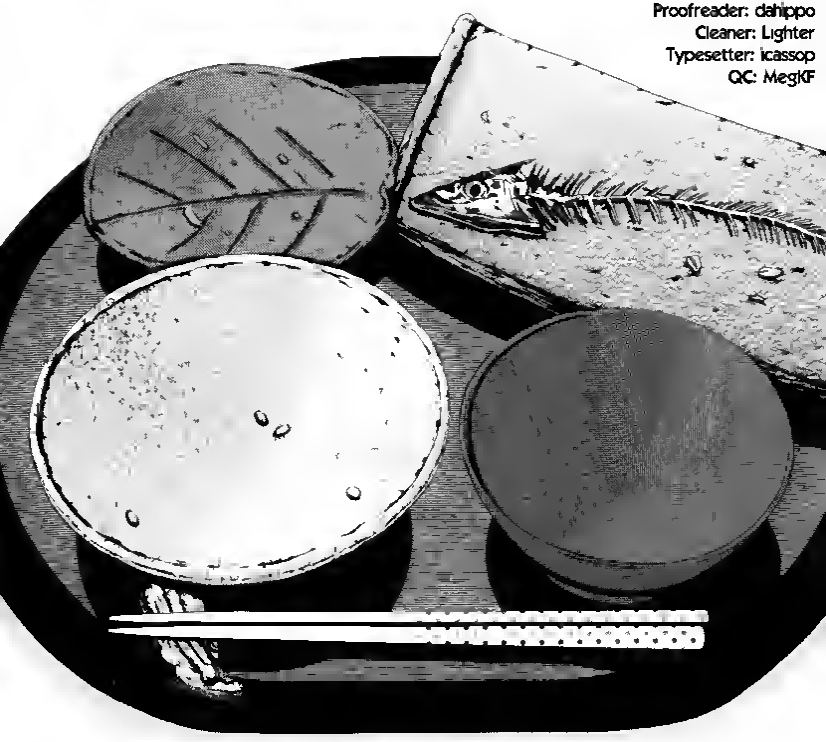


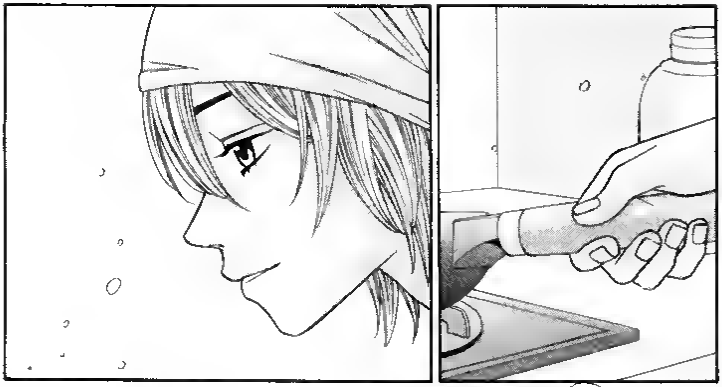
Chapter 28
SCROLL OF BAKING A CAKE TOGETHER

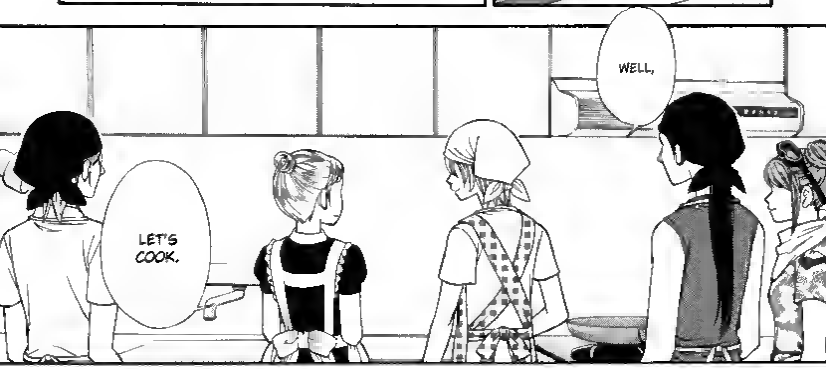
UM,
NINA
I THINK I'LL GO TO THE KITCHEN.
I WANT TO MAKE SOMETHING FOR RANGE.

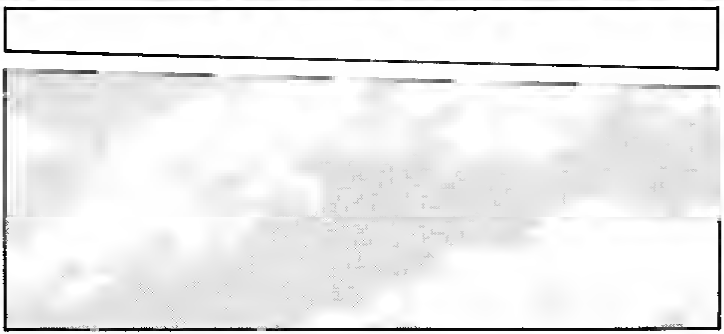
I REMEMBER
RANGE ALWAYS HAS
A CHUPA CHUPS LOLLIPOP
MAYBE
THAT WAS THE FIRST THING I EVER GAVE HIM.

COME!
WELCOME!
COME!
COME!
COME!
PLEASE FEEL AT EASE IN THE KITCHEN
Ajisai's Conversation Club
I'll be in the back the whole time!
WE'RE HERE TO HELP YOU IN CASE YOU COLLAPSE AGAIN!
Wah!
OH... THANKS
Gulp
Bear it to mind
If a fire breaks out, I will be ready!
YOU... DON'T NEED TO GO THAT FAR...

EH?
I THINK...
I'M OK...
OH!
AWESOME.
WAH!
CON-GRATULA-TIONS, AGEHA!

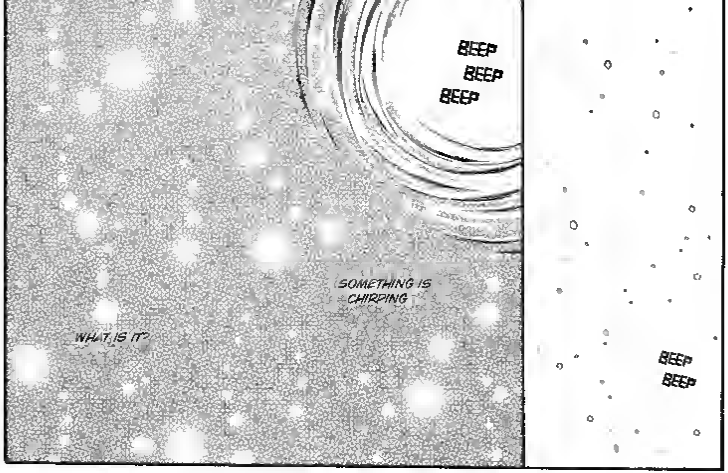



WELL,
LET'S COOK.



THAT SHIBU-TAN!
HE'S SURELY A STAR SOME-WHERE
CAN'T FIND HIM...
The long cut...
YO TAIKO, LET ME THINK...
BANG BANG BANG
YO SHIBU-TAN!
COME ON OUT!
I have dried fish sticks!
DON'T KILL OFF THE BIG CAT!
Shut it!
And my name is Tsuchi!
But he's... Ugh!
MEOW
Ah! I'll start crying! It's not funny!!

AH... SO WARM...



I WONDER IF I SHOULD GO TOO

OH, IT'S COMING FROM OUTSIDE

THAT'S RIGHT

I WANT TO DO NEW THINGS

I WANT TO LEARN NEW THINGS

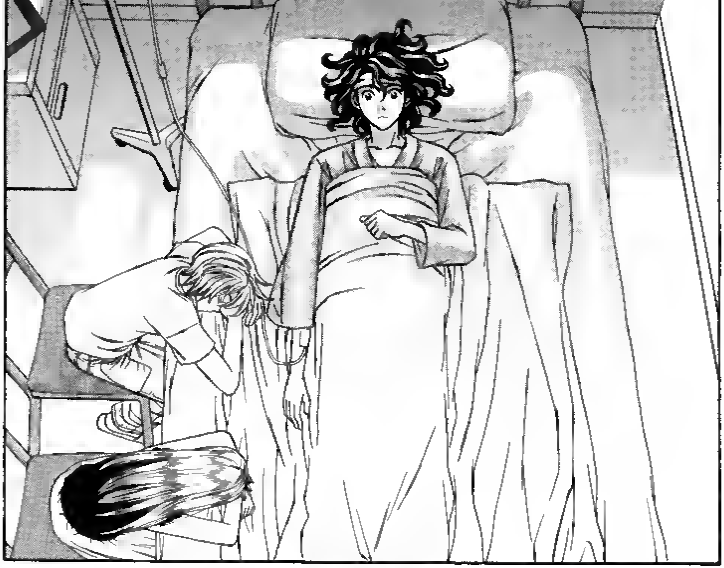
THIS PLACE IS TOO CRAMPED FOR ME

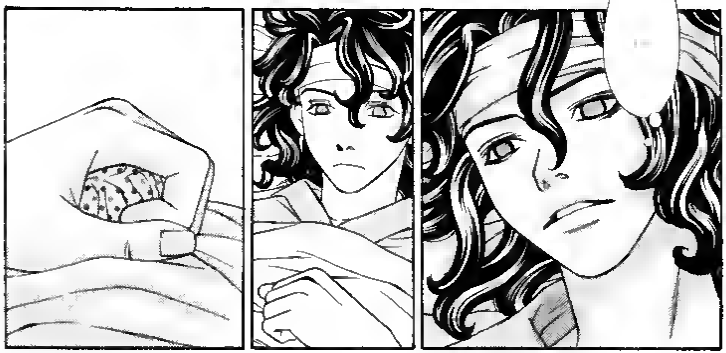
I'M TIRED OF IT

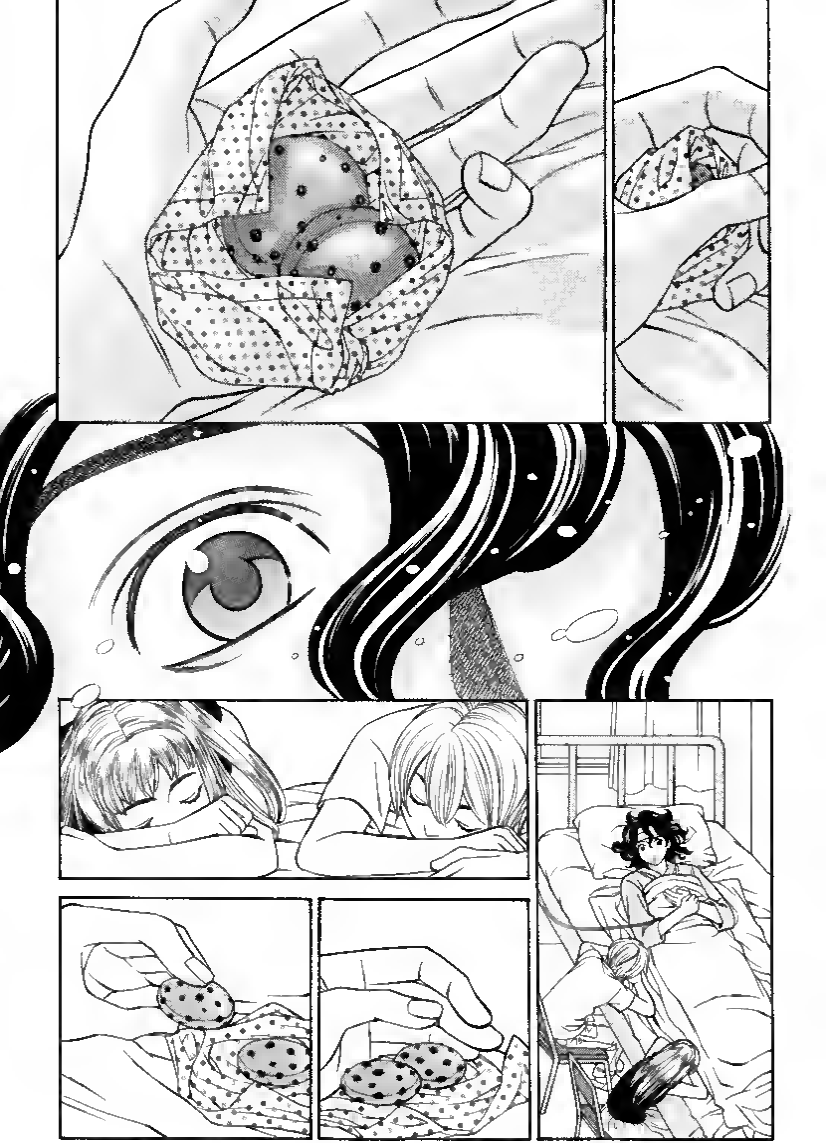
AND I WANT TO EAT AGAIN...

...AGEHA'S

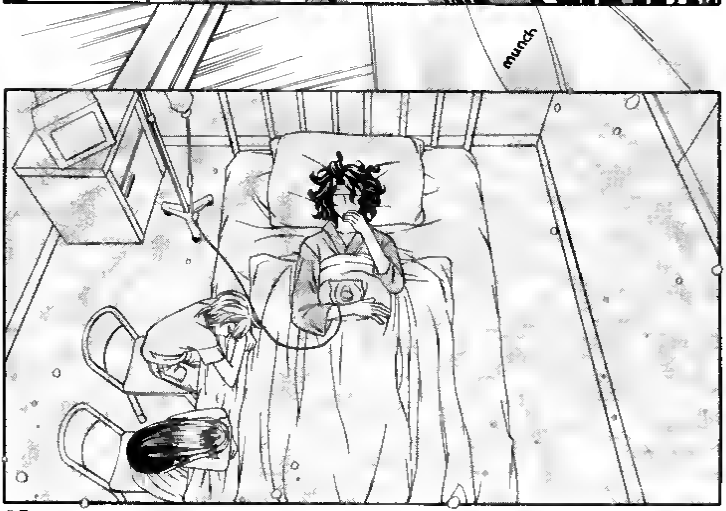
...AGEHA'S COOKING.

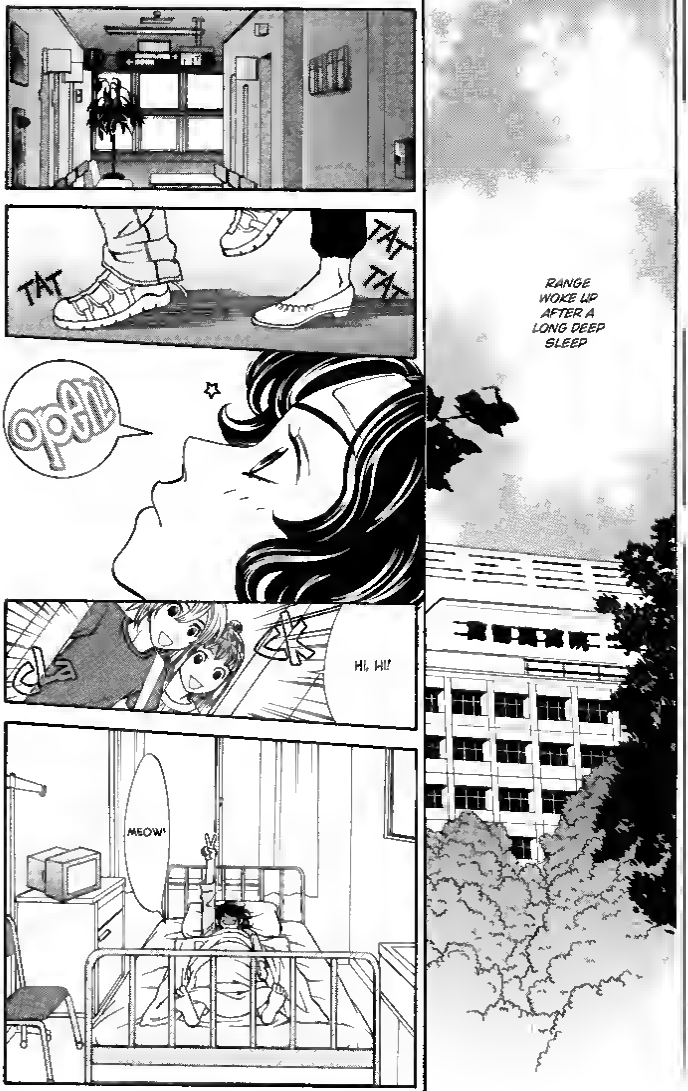




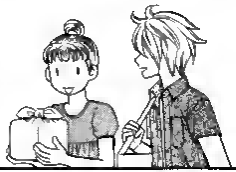


CRUNCH

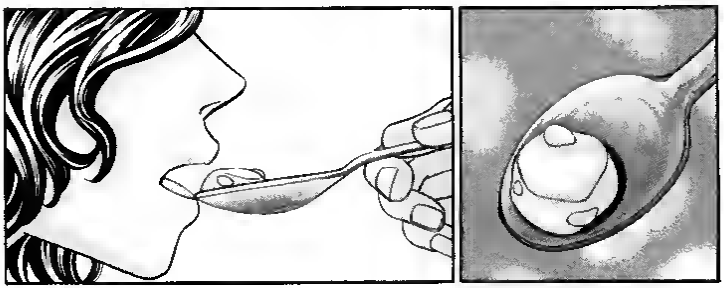

munch


RANGE WOKE UP AFTER A LONG DEEP SLEEP
TAT
TAT
TAT
open
HI, HI!
MEOW!

WHEN I FELL, RANGE PROTECTED ME FROM THE CRASH WITH HIS BODY HIS FATIGUE AND MALNUTRITION HAD ALSO WORN HIM OUT
YOU COOKED TODAY, TOO
NINA MADE THE PORRIDGE
I MADE THE CUSTARD WANT TO EAT SOME?



RANGE NEVER ATE ANYTHING OTHER THAN WHAT WE MADE



RANGE SETTLED DOWN AFTER HE WOKE UP.
I'M BEGINNING TO UNDERSTAND HIS WAY OF THINKING.
HE SEEMS TO BE FINALLY FREE
...OF THE THINGS THAT HAPPENED UP UNTIL NOW...
...AND OF THE TOUGH SHELL HE HAD AROUND HIMSELF.
SPEAKING OF CHANGE...
HE'S AT PEACE NOW, HUH?
TELLING HIM YOUR MOTIVES WON'T CHANGE YOUR ATTITUDES

I'VE HAD ENOUGH!
TO THE POINT THAT IT IS ALMOST SURPRISING
...RANGE'S ATTITUDE TOWARD NINA HAS CHANGED TOO
Hey!
DON'T' BE SELFISH!
IT'S YOUR BODY ON THE LINE, SO BE PATIENT!
GRR
I DON'T WANT TO STAY HERE ANYMORE!
BUT YOU'RE STILL HURT ...!
SCREW THAT, I'M GOING HOME!
Ow!
BOING
It's like I saw her mother for a minute there...
NO WAY
Good boy!
So cute!
Woah!
FINE...

Humph
IN THE END, SHE STILL LIKES RANGE
NINA CAN'T HELP BEING CUTE AROUND RANGE
I WANT TO MAKE WHATEVER HE WANTS JUST FOR HEMI ♡♡
Whee! ♡
HUH?!
I'M NOT.
OH!
AGEHA...
JEALOUS?
WELL, IT'S ALL GOOD...
WAH...
UGH
GLOMP
DON'T WORRY.
YOU'RE MY ONLY DARLING ♡

THIS PLACE IS ALL GREEN NOW...
GO ON, RANGE GO ON IN!
RANGE?
Eh?
wobble wobble
BIG BRO, WHERE ARE YOU?
Big Bro, I'm back! Hurry up and come out! Hello?
WHAT DO WE DO?! HE'S NOT AROUND ANYMORE...
BIG BRO... IS HE TALKING ABOUT SHIOTANI?
THEN, THE DAY ARRIVED WHEN RANGE RETURNED TO THE HOUSE OF THE SAKURA
WE'RE HERE!
CONGRATULATIONS ON GETTING DISCHARGED!

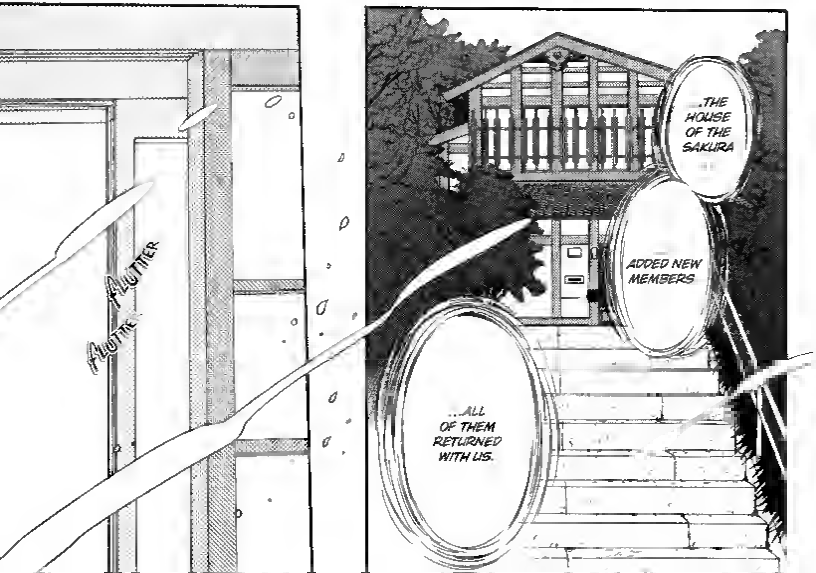
EH?
I SEE RANGE IS BACK SO SHIBUTANI CAME BACK, TOO
STORE
HUH? HE ISN'T DEA-
IT'S SHIBUTANI ...
for real?!
SHIBUTANI!
rustle
rustle
meow!
meow!
finally
THIS IS GREAT!
HUH?

PURR...
TA—DA
meow!
meow!
...SHE HAD BABIES?
Cool! It's all her. Baron President!
One, two, three...
Six. Shidoshi...
Adorable
NO! THERE ARE ACTUALLY A LOT!
Uwah!
Did I inadvertently get drunk?
AH!
I NEED CLASSES!
So many Shidoshi!

Female voice
CU, CU, CU...
So, she's the mother
That's a hard joke, Kaoru.
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?! HE'S MALE!
HUH? WHO?
SHIBUTANI...
BUT... LOOK AT HER STOMACH
HA HA HA
LARGE BREASTS
PUFF
I SEE...
PUFF...

APPARENTLY...
Uh, it's because the scar on her eye looks so gruesome
Did you just find out today that Shibutani is female?
...THIS WHOLE TIME...
...SO SHE MOVED TO A SAFER PLACE
...SHIBUTANI WAS PREGNANT...

AND...

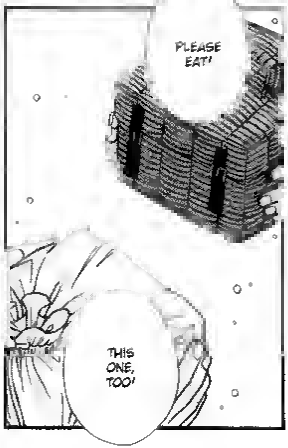

FLUTTER
FLUTTER
...THE HOUSE OF THE SAKURA
ADDED NEW MEMBERS
...ALL OF THEM RETURNED WITH US.

THE WEATHER IS GETTING COOLER
THIS IS THE BEST TIME OF THE YEAR
We are like old people.
OH, YEAH DORM PRESIDENT
IT'S YOUR DREAM, HUH, CHIKO?
AFTER NINA GRADUATES FROM HIGH SCHOOL, I'LL BE GOING TO INDIA
THAT'S RIGHT!
I ENJOY BEING HERE, TOO
I WANT TO TRY MANY MORE NEW THINGS

AS THEY GREW UP
I WAS WITH THEM
I WON'T LOSE.
WHAT'S LEFT OF THIS FEELING
HAHAH
AHA HA!
I'M JUST WORRIED HOW YOU'LL BE WITHOUT ME AROUND, KAZAMA!
TO ME, THEY ARE VERY IMPORTANT.
RELATED OR NOT.
THE PAST'S NOT IMPORTANT
I WON'T LOSE EITHER

THEY INFLUENCED EACH OTHER

AS THEY GREW UP TOGETHER.



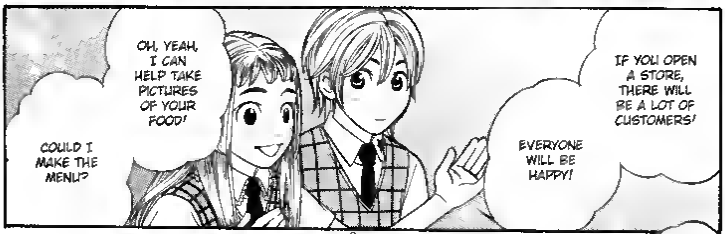
MY LIFE CHANGED BECAUSE OF THEM,

AND I ENJOY EVERY PRECIOUS MOMENT WITH THEM

THIS TASTES GOOD
THE SALAD IS DELICIOUS ♡
LISTEN...
I...
I THINK I'LL STUDY COOKING MORE EARNESTLY
I WAS REALLY HAPPY TO BE BACK IN THE KITCHEN AFTER BEING AWAY FOR A WHILE...
THAT SURPRISED ME...

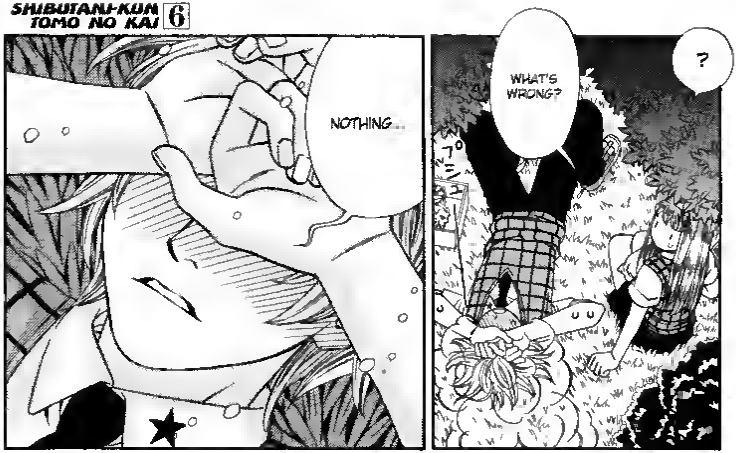
BUT...
I THOUGHT I COULD GIVE HIM SOMETHING THIS WAY.
...I UNDERSTOOD THAT RANGE REALLY NEEDED ME.
I USED TO AVOID THE KITCHEN.
MAYBE I WAS WORRIED OF ANOTHER FIRE.
BUT I ALSO FELT LIKE I WAS "ROUSED INTO BATTLE."
THAT MADE ME REALLY HAPPY
I FELT
THAT MORE AND MORE PEOPLE...
WERE HAPPY TO EAT MY FOOD.
WHICH MADE ME SUPER HAPPY.

...YEAH!
THAT'S GREAT!
I ALSO WANT TO EAT EVERYTHING YOU COOK!


OH, YEAH, I CAN HELP TAKE PICTURES OF YOUR FOOD!
COULD I MAKE THE MENU?
IF YOU OPEN A STORE, THERE WILL BE A LOT OF CUSTOMERS!
EVERYONE WILL BE HAPPY!

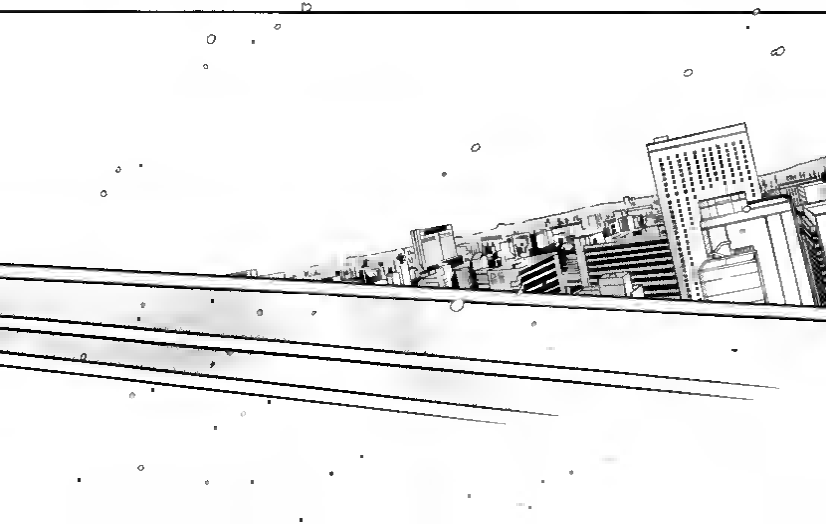
WAH, SOUNDS FUN!
...IF THAT FUTURE...
IF THAT FUTURE REALLY COMES TO PASS...
AND AFTER THAT

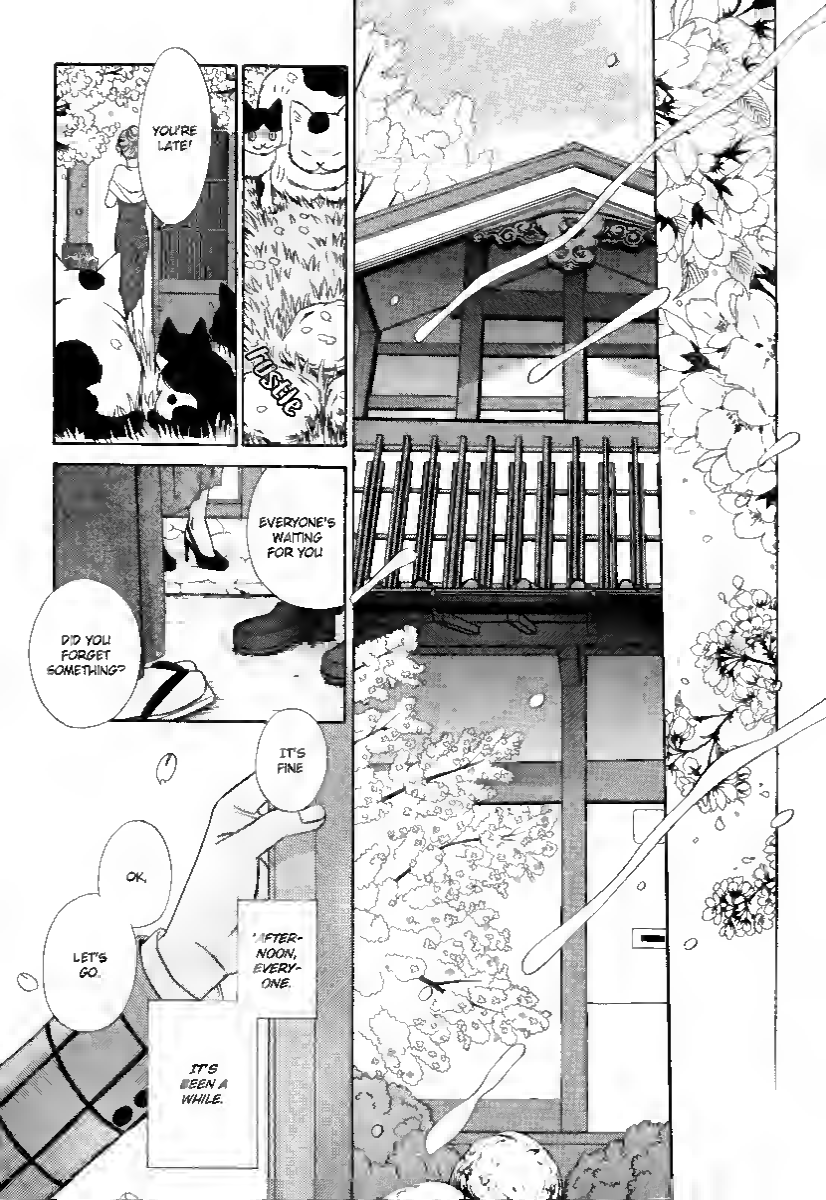
BE BY MY SIDE?
THEN
WILL YOU STILL
EVEN WHEN YOU GROW OLD...
BECAUSE YOU'RE MY KEY INGREDIENT
YOU WILL ALWAYS FILL ME UP
AND TURN INTO A WRINKLY OLD LADY
SO...
I WILL NEVER BE TIRED OF YOU
ALWAYS



...THOSE EMBARRASSING WORDS

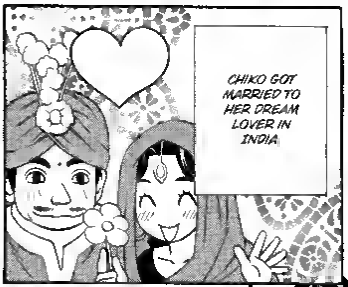
I CAN'T SAY...




YOU'RE LATE!
RUSTLE
EVERYONE'S WAITING FOR YOU
DID YOU FORGET SOMETHING?
IT'S FINE
OK.
LET'S GO.
AFTERNOON, EVERYONE.
IT'S BEEN A WHILE.

I'M OFF!
KAZAMA HIRO, 16 YEARS OLD
OFFICIALLY A HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT
HUH? WHERE DID I PUT MY ENVELOPE?
I HAVE IT HERE
MY ADOPTIVE FATHER, CHIGUSA KAZAMA, HAS BEEN LIVING HERE IN THE HOUSE OF THE SAKURA FOR THIRTEEN YEARS.
YOU'RE LATE!
TODAY
SORRY
IS A VERY SPECIAL DAY

THEY'LL SING SOMETHING TODAY
NANASEI AND KAORI FORMED A NEW GROUP AND OFFICIALLY DEBUTED

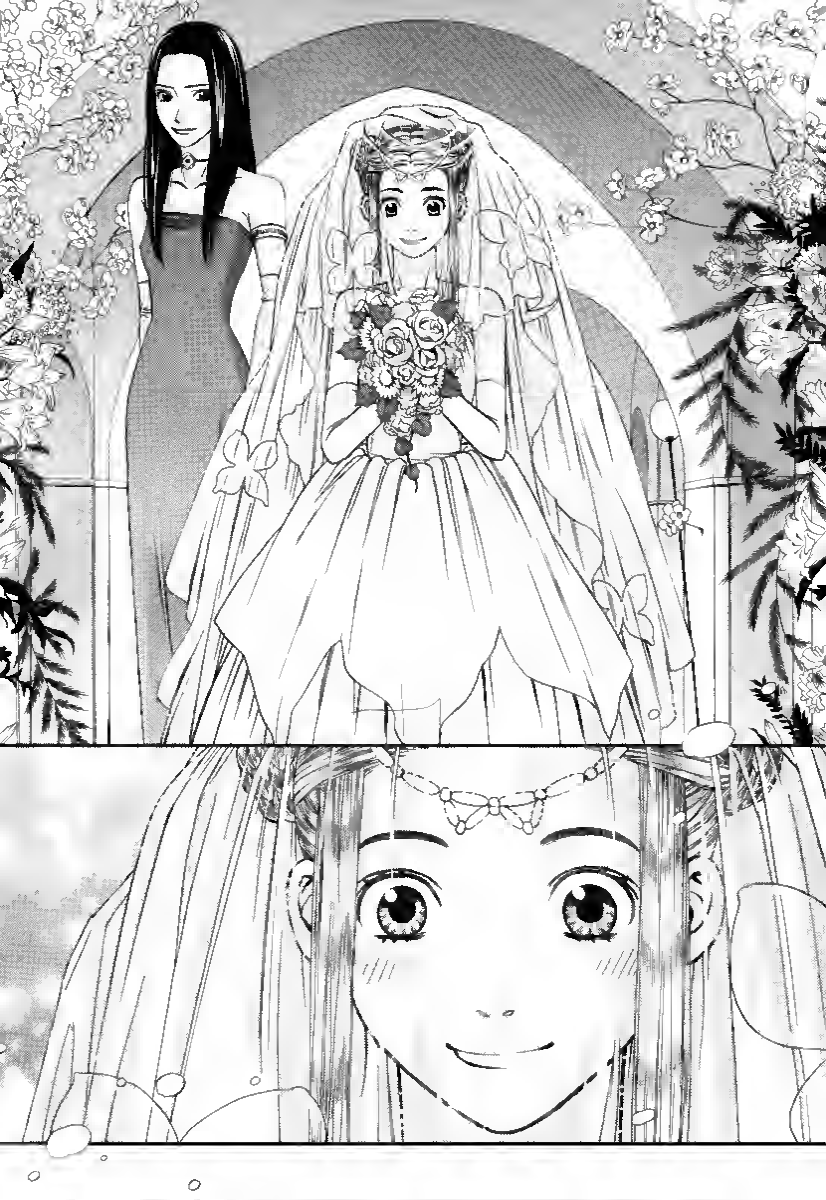

CHIKO GOT MARRIED TO HER DREAM LOVER IN INDIA

AKANE IS IN COLLEGE TO BECOME A JOURNALIST

AS FOR ME,
I NEVER MET MY BIRTH PARENTS
ALSO,
NEW PEOPLE MOVED INTO THE HOUSE OF THE SAKURA

THEY NOTICED EACH OTHER,
SPEAK-ING OF AGEHA,
AT THAT TIME, CHIGUSA AND I
BUT IT SEEMS ALL THEY DID WAS EXCHANGE GLANCES
HE MET HIS BIRTH FATHER RECENTLY
PROBABLY KNEW THIS WAS COMING
HE DOESN'T FEEL SAD AT ALL...
BECAUSE HE HAS PLENTY OF LOVE FROM OTHER PEOPLE

AGEHA, CONGRATULATIONS!
I...
THANKS
WHAT? HE ISN'T WITH YOU?
BUT THE PARTY'S ABOUT TO START!
...THINK YOU'VE GOTTEN TALLER THAN ME, HIRO
AGEHA WORKS AS A CHEF AT THIS RESTAURANT
WE BOOKED THE WHOLE PLACE FOR TODAY
YOU'RE HANDSOME FOR A SHORT GUY!
OH?
Thanks...?
I'll bend to your height
COME TO THINK OF IT, I HAVEN'T SEEN HIM
AH!
WAH
SO PRETTY!
fwop



NINA
YOU LOOK REALLY NICE...
HEE HEE
AH, NINA! SO BEAUTIFUL!
Stare
She's lovely!
Or curse!
NATURALLY!
THIS WAS ALL MY DOING!
This is my best work!
CHIHIRO IS AN UP-AND-COMING FASHION DESIGNER
FOR WOMEN
But Nina's style looks flat when worn! hard to take care of
Sniff...
SO,
TODAY IS
↑ Unrequited love.

SORRY, I'M LATE.
...AGEHA'S AND NINA'S WEDDING.
SLAM
What a cute dress
What a cute hat
ARGH, HE SURE IS LATE
I GUESS WE'LL HAVE TO START...
AH!
AH.

RANGE IS REALLY FAMOUS NOW
WHILE HE WORKS AS AN ACTOR, HE'S ALSO WON MANY AWARDS AS A BRILLIANT DANCER
I WANTED TO BRING SHIBUTANI WITH ME.
meow!
SHALL WE BEGIN THEN?
IT'S SHOW TIME. ♡ Don't get upset
Kenge
What's with your clothes?
EVERYONE'S WAITING FOR YOU!
He still refuses to come to my office.
What a shame
KYAAEEE
WOO HOO!
Now kiss, you two! ♡
HUH
HUH
HUH?
WOULD THE AUDIENCE PLEASE WITNESS THIS HOLY MATRIMONY
WITNESS AS THESE TWO MAKE THE VOWS TO BECOME HUSBAND AND WIFE.

AIEE♡
JUST LIKE THAT!
PLEASE HAVE FUN!
Yeah!
WAAAH
WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL? ♡
Old habits die hard!
DAMN YOU, RANGE.
BECAUSE STARTING TODAY,
WE ARE A FAMILY! ♡
UGH!

UGH, I CAN'T CONTROL THIS KID.
IT'S SOMETHING THAT WAS ALREADY DECIDED, DON'T FRET ABOUT IT.
THAT'S RIGHT, IT'S FATE!
DADDY AGEHA.
MOMMY NINA.
HEY.
EVEN THOUGH THEY ARE THE SAME AGE
SOMEONE WHO WAS BORN A FEW MONTHS LATER CAN BECOME THE ADOPTIVE CHILD OF SOMEONE BORN A FEW MONTHS EARLIER
Ready to leave?
ALL RIGHT AGEHA
FAMILY, MY BUTT!
YES
ON THE DAY OF NINA AND AGEHA'S WEDDING
RANGE ALSO OFFICIALLY BECAME
THEIR ADOPTIVE SON.

NO REASON FOR IT TO
Here you go. It's our homemade cake!
WILL THE "SHIBUTANI ALLIANCE CLUB" DISSOLVE?
THERE'S THREE ARIHARAS NOW
FOREVER
NO MATTER WHAT, WE'RE ALL RELATED
TRUE!
THE SHIBUTANI CAT FAMILY IS DOING WELL, TOO
AH, ABOUT THAT
HUH? WHAT'S WITH THE CANDIES ON THE CAKE?
Nashatyr?
Chupa
IT'S A LIFETIME ALLIANCE.

TWENTY YEARS AGO,
AGEHA AND RANGE MET FOR THE FIRST TIME.
SO,
EVERYONE IS GOING TO AN AMUSEMENT PARK, HUH...
WHAT'S WRONG?
THIS IS FOR YOU!
OH, YEAH.
AH!
WHAT IS THIS?
IT'S CALLED A CHUPA CHUPS LOLLIPOP
YOU DON'T KNOW?

AND SO,
EVERYONE LIVED HAPPILY EVER AFTER.

I DON'T WANNA!
EW!
YOU, TOO, NANASE!
EAT UP!
HE'S RIGHT THIS DOESN'T HAVE ANY TASTE
NOT YOU, TOO!
I TOLD YOU TO STOP BEING PICKY!
BUT I HATE TOMATOES!

SECRET WORLD
EVERYONE .
MY FAMILY IS A FAMILY OF FOUR
THERE'S MY CAREFREE DAD,
MY BIG BROTHER, WHO'S A GREAT COOK,
AND MY LITTLE BROTHER, WHO RECENTLY ENTERED HIS REBELLIOUS STAGE
. SAYS I'M WEIRD.

en·tro·py
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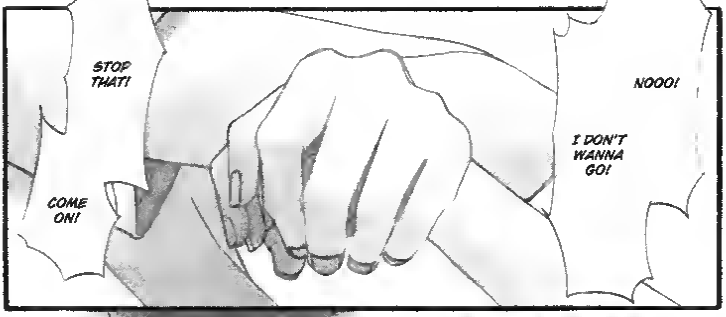
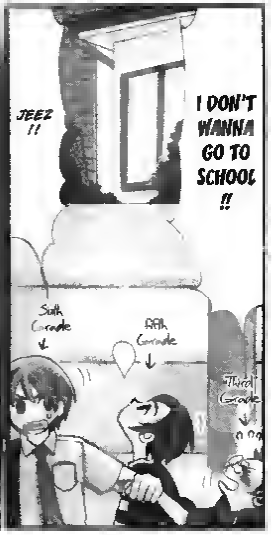

STOP THAT!
COME ON!
NOOO!
I DON'T WANNA GO!

Your dad's company has flexible work hours!
GO FORTH, MY SONS


JEEZ !!
I DON'T WANNA GO TO SCHOOL !!
Sixth Grade
fifth Grade
Third Grade

YOU GUYS ARE ON YOUR OWN NOW!
gulk
Hello!
AH.
HELLO...
WERE YOU LOOKING AT THE SKY WHILE WALKING AGAIN?
NANA-CHAN!
POUT
HMPH!
IT'S PRETTY
HEY, DID YOU FINISH YOUR HOMEWORK?
YOU DIDN'T NOTICE ME AT ALL WHEN I WAVED

...NO

EH?

MM.

You're good at essays.

THAT'S RARE

BUT

WHEN I TRIED TO KEEP WRITING

OUR MOTHER DIED FROM SICKNESS

WHEN I WAS FOUR

I JUST GOT SLEEPY

My family

Grade 5, Class 3

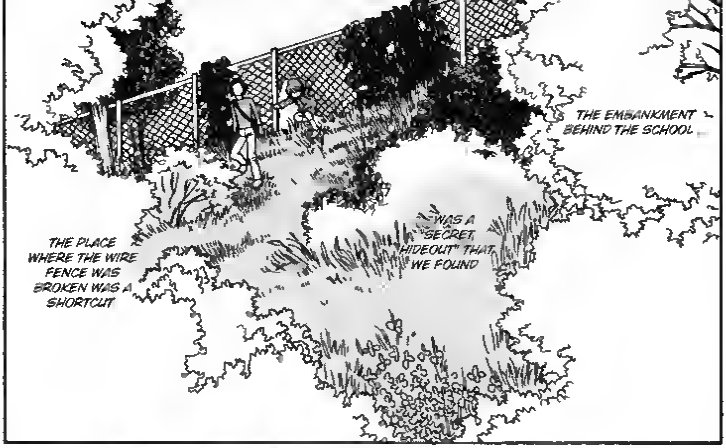
My family is a family of four. The

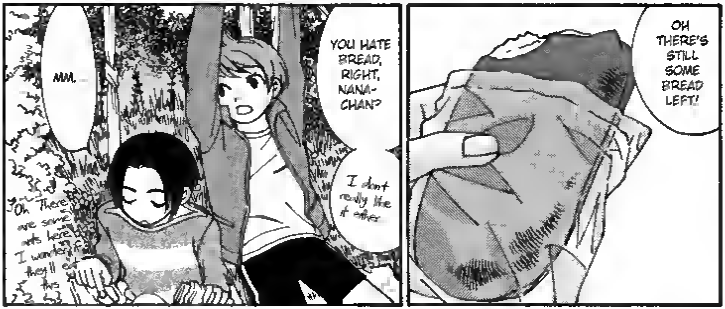
dad, my big brother, who's a great co

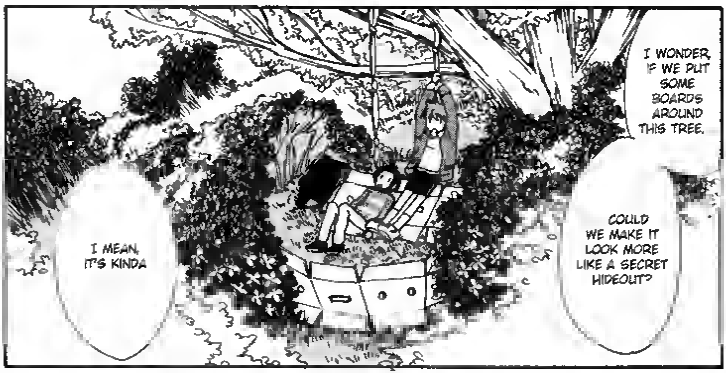
brother, who recently entered his reb

weird.

I REMEMBER THE DAY OF THE FUNERAL AS BEING BEAUTIFUL AND CLEAR
I REMEMBER DAD AND BIG BROTHER CRYING LOUDLY
...DESPITE THE FACT THAT I WASN'T CRYING
I REMEMBER EVERYONE SAYING, "POOR AKANE"...
NANA-CHAN HAS TWO HAIR WHORLS.
HUH?
ARE WE GOING TO THE "SECRET HIDEOUT" TODAY?
Hair whorl!
POKE
OW!
DING DONG
DING DONG


THE EMBANKMENT BEHIND THE SCHOOL
WAS A "SECRET HIDEOUT" THAT WE FOUND
THE PLACE WHERE THE WIRE FENCE WAS BROKEN WAS A SHORTCUT


MM...
YOU HATE BREAD, RIGHT, NANA-CHAN?
I don't really like it either.
Oh, there are some ants here. I wonder if they'll eat this.
OH, THERE'S STILL SOME BREAD LEFT!

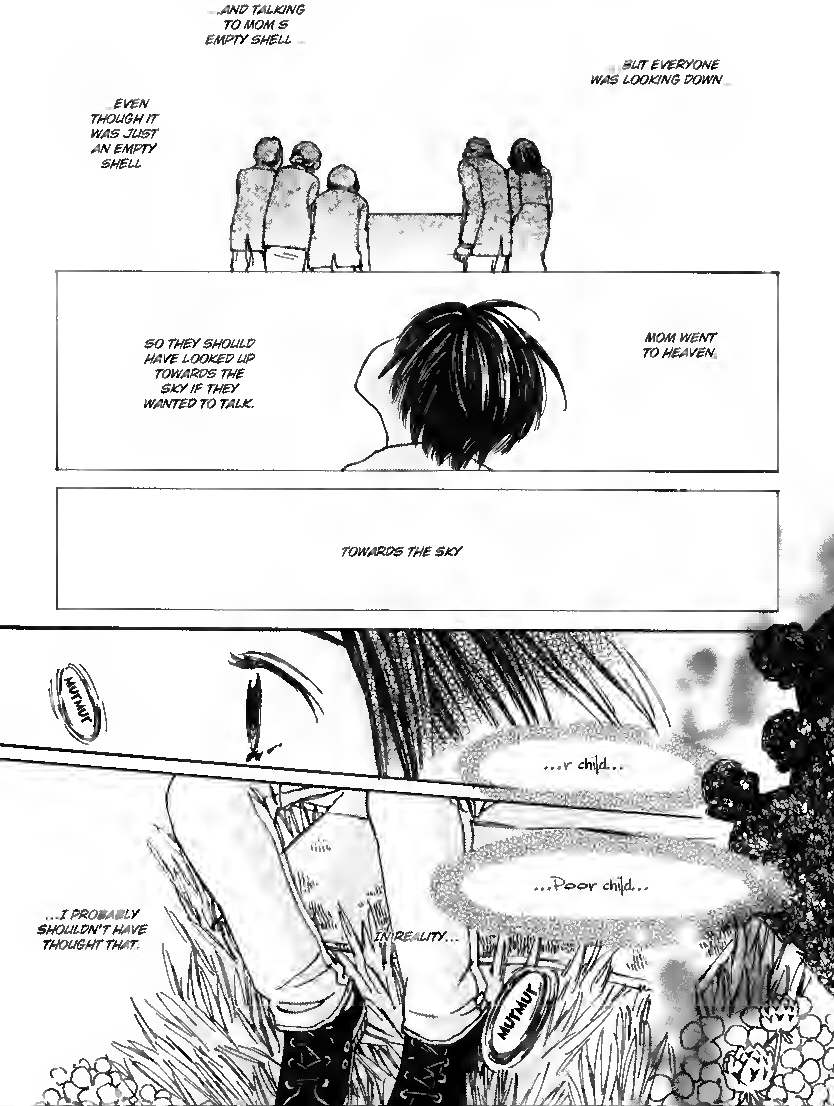

I WONDER IF WE PUT SOME BOARDS AROUND THIS TREE.
I MEAN, IT'S KINDA
COULD WE MAKE IT LOOK MORE LIKE A SECRET HIDEOUT?

I THINK I DON'T WANT TO GET EATEN UP
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
BZZ
HM?
OH! A ladybug!
WAIT, WAIT! I got it!
That tickles!
JUST A...
LITTLE MORE.
UP,
UP!
WHOOPS.
SORRY!
BZZZ
OH!

AW,
IT FLEW AWAY
IT'D BE GREAT TO FLY!
NANA-CHAN'S FULL NAME IS EVEN NANASE!
WHAT WOULD YOU DO IF YOU COULD FLY?
THAT'S EASY! I COULD GO HOME IN A FLASH,
OR IF IT RAINS, I COULD CLIMB ABOVE THE CLOUDS?
But I don't want a Takecopter
THE SKY W.S LIKE THIS THEN, TOO...

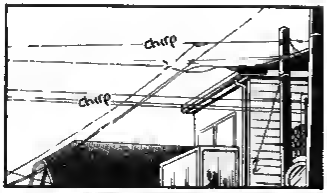
*Note: Nanase means "7 stars"

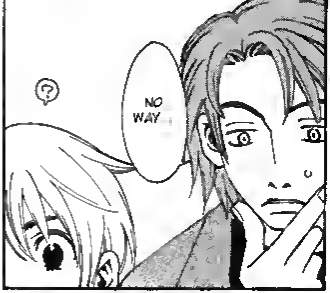
*T/N Takecopter is one of Doraemon's tools


...AND TALKING TO MOM'S EMPTY SHELL...
...BUT EVERYONE WAS LOOKING DOWN...
EVEN THOUGH IT WAS JUST AN EMPTY SHELL
SO THEY SHOULD HAVE LOOKED UP TOWARDS THE SKY IF THEY WANTED TO TALK.
MOM WENT TO HEAVEN.
TOWARDS THE SKY
MUTMUT
...r child...
...Poor child...
...I PROBABLY SHOULDN'T HAVE THOUGHT THAT.
IN REALITY...
MUTMUT

I SHOULDN'T HAVE THOUGHT OF HER AS AN EMPTY SHELL.

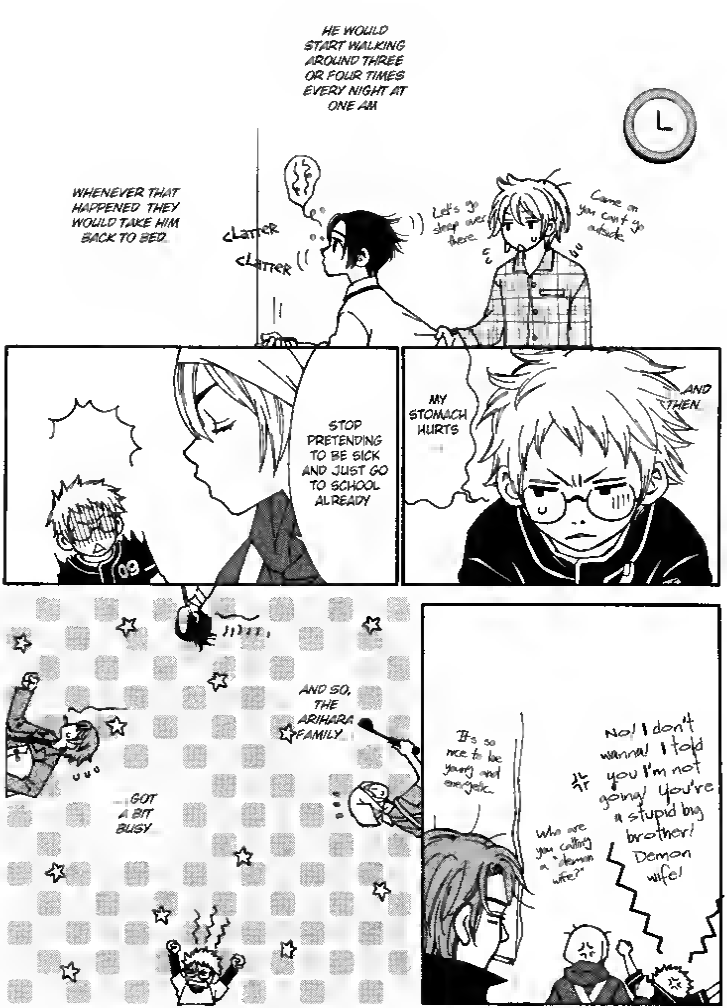
OH, NANA! YOU CAME TO GREET ME!
THAT'S WONDERFUL! THANK YOU!
BUT IT'S ALREADY ONE AT NIGHT, SO...
...HUH?
STEP STEP STEP STEP STEP STEP STEP
HEY THERE, WAIT UP!
WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING?
MM, WHAT'S GOING ON, DAD?
HEY, AGEHA, THERE'S SOMETHING WRONG WITH HIM
Did he eat something funny?
ISN'T HE JUST HALF-ASLEEP?
EXCEPT HIS EYES ARE OPEN
SLAP SLAP
HEY! NANA!
NANASEI!!



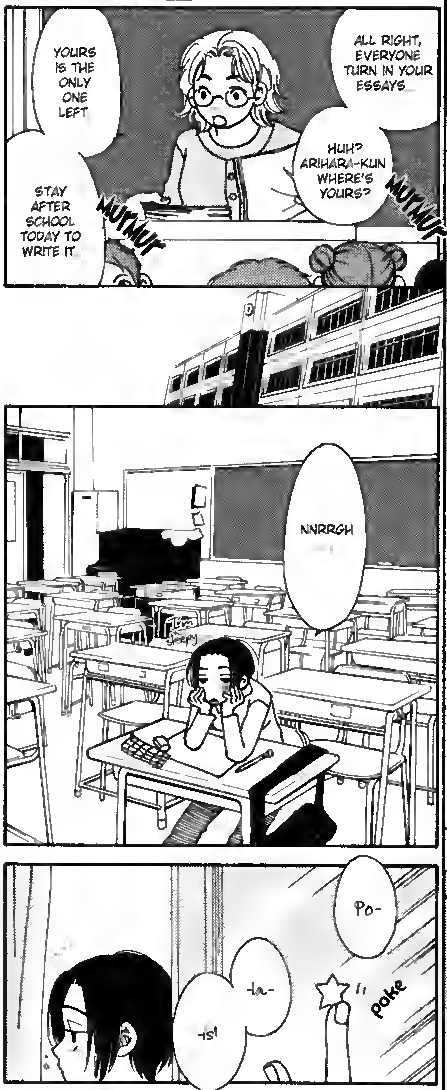


SOMNAMBULISM

A PHENOMENON CHARACTERIZED BY THE PERSON WALKING IN A STATE OF SEMI-CONSCIOUSNESS. CHILDREN IN THE LATTER HALF OF CHILDHOOD AND ADOLESCENTS ARE MOST SUSCEPTIBLE, AND MOST SLEEPWALKERS DON'T REMEMBER ANYTHING THAT HAPPENS WHILE THEY'RE SLEEPWALKING. THERE IS NO REAL CURE, BUT IN MOST CASES THE SYMPTOMS WILL WEAR OFF IN A FEW MONTHS, SO JUST KEEP A TIGHT EYE ON THEM.


IN NANASE'S CASE,
HE WOULD START WALKING AROUND THREE OR FOUR TIMES EVERY NIGHT AT ONE AM
WHENEVER THAT HAPPENED THEY WOULD TAKE HIM BACK TO BED.
clatter
clatter
Let's go sleep over there.
Come on, you can't go outside.
STOP PRETENDING TO BE SICK AND JUST GO TO SCHOOL ALREADY
MY STOMACH HURTS
AND THEN...
AND SO, THE ARIHARA FAMILY...
GOT A BIT BUSY.
It's so nice to be young and energetic.
Who are you calling a "demon wife?"
No! I don't wanna! I told you I'm not going! You're a stupid big brother! Demon wife!

I DON'T KNOW HOW THEY GET BY, WITH THREE CHILDREN AND ONLY A FATHER.
IT'S SO HARD FOR THE ARIHARAS.
PHARM
DO YOU THINK THAT NANASEI-CHAN'S SLEEPWALKING PROBLEM...
I WONDER IF ARIHARA-SAN WILL REMARRY.
...IS BECAUSE THE MOTHER IS LONELY ON THE OTHER SIDE?
HE'S STILL YOUNG.
T'KANO-SAN!
DON'T SAY SUCH OMINOUS THINGS!

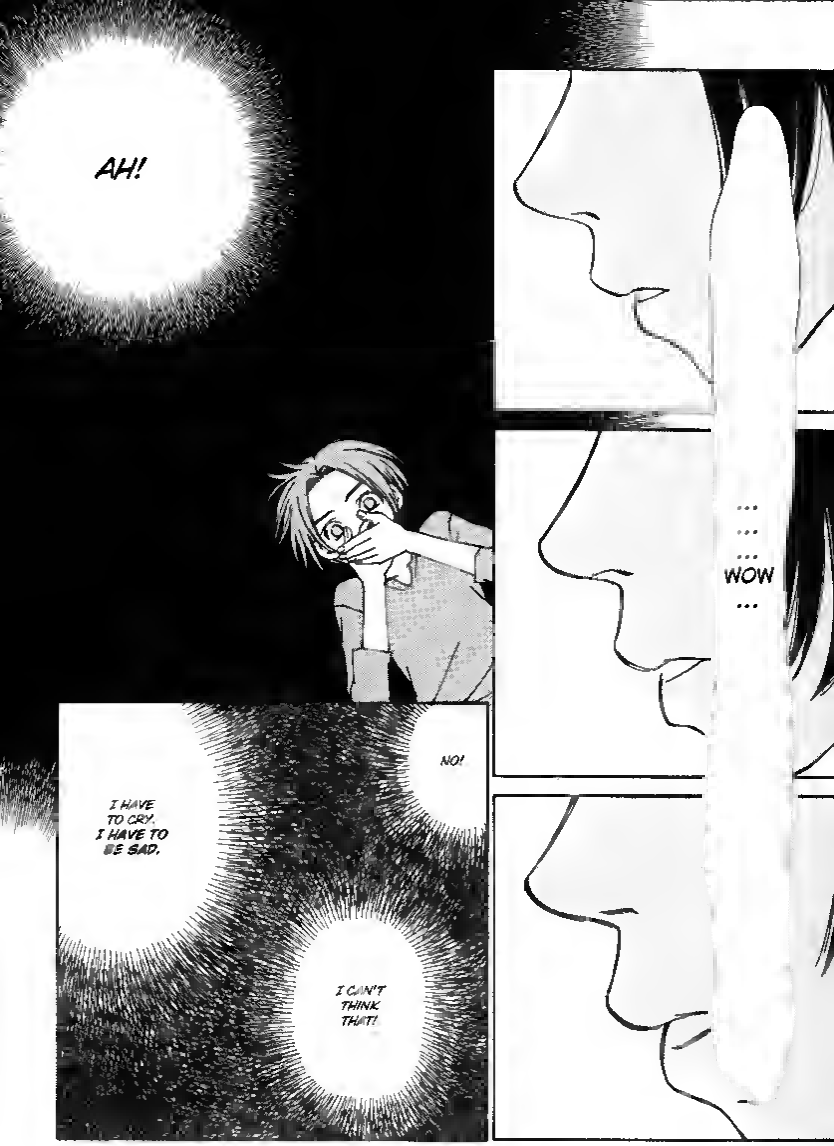

ALL RIGHT, EVERYONE TURN IN YOUR ESSAYS
HUH? ARIHARA-KUN WHERE'S YOURS?
MUTMUT
YOURS IS THE ONLY ONE LEFT
STAY AFTER SCHOOL TODAY TO WRITE IT.
MUTMUT
NNRRGH
Po-
-la-
-is!
poke

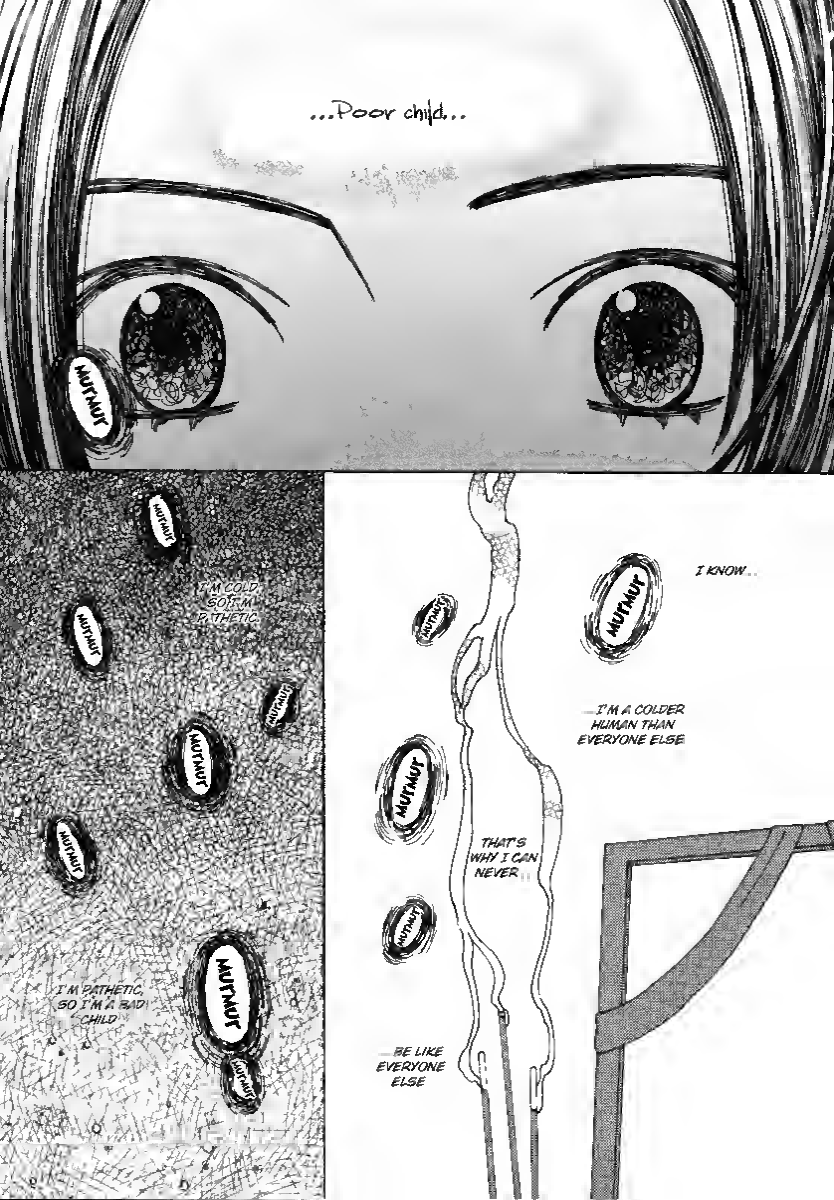
*T/N: "Ursa Major" and "Nanase" have the same kanji

RUSTLE
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
flick
AH!
HUMMM
THAT SUR-PRISED ME.

IT'S DEAD.
OH.
KAORIN AND I'VE FED IT BEFORE, TOO
IT WAS STILL SMALL
IT WAS PROBABLY HIT BY A CAR THAT CAT WAS A STRAY FROM NEARBY.
!
gasp
OH, GOOD! IT'S STILL ALIVE!
twitch
WHAT SHOULD I DO...?

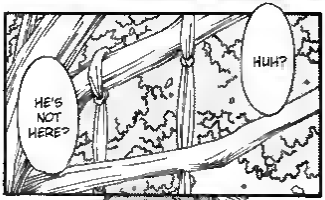
NO, THE CAT ISN'T ALIVE
IT LOOKED LIKE IT MOVED BECAUSE...
INSIDE OF THE...
INSIDES OF THE...
CRUSHED
...WAS AN ALARMINGLY NUMBER OF WHITE MAGGOTS
MANGLED CAT...
...WAS STILL BREATHING
THEIR MOVEMENTS CONNECTED TOGETHER AND MADE IT LOOK AS THOUGH THE CAT...


AH!
...
...
...
WOW
...
NO!
I HAVE TO CRY. I HAVE TO BE SAD.
I CAN'T THINK THAT!


...Poor child...
MUTMUT
MUTMUT
I'M COLD. SOFT. I'M PATHETIC.
MUTMUT
MUTMUT
MUTMUT
MUTMUT
MUTMUT
I'M PATHETIC. SO I'M A BAD CHILD
MUTMUT
MUTMUT
MUTMUT
I KNOW...
MUTMUT
...I'M A COLDER HUMAN THAN EVERYONE ELSE
MUTMUT
THAT'S WHY I CAN NEVER...
MUTMUT
...BE LIKE EVERYONE ELSE

I'M SORRY I'M SO WORTHLESS
WHY IS MOM DEAD BUT I'M STILL ALIVE?
I'M SORRY
I'M SORRY
WHY IS THE CAT DEAD BUT I'M STILL ALIVE?
I'M SORRY

NANA-CHAN!
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
I BROUGHT APPLES!


HUH?
HE'S NOT HERE?

snap

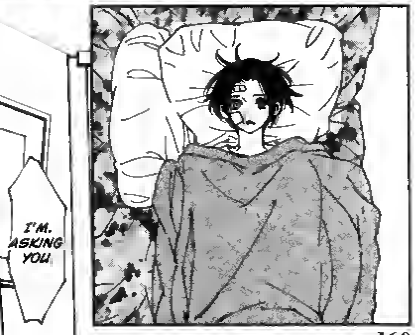
I'M SORRY.

NANA-CHAN? WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
HEY! THAT'S DANGE....
NO ..
DON'T TAKE NANA-CHAN AWAY!
NO!
NO, STOP! NANA-CHAN'S MOM!
Ah

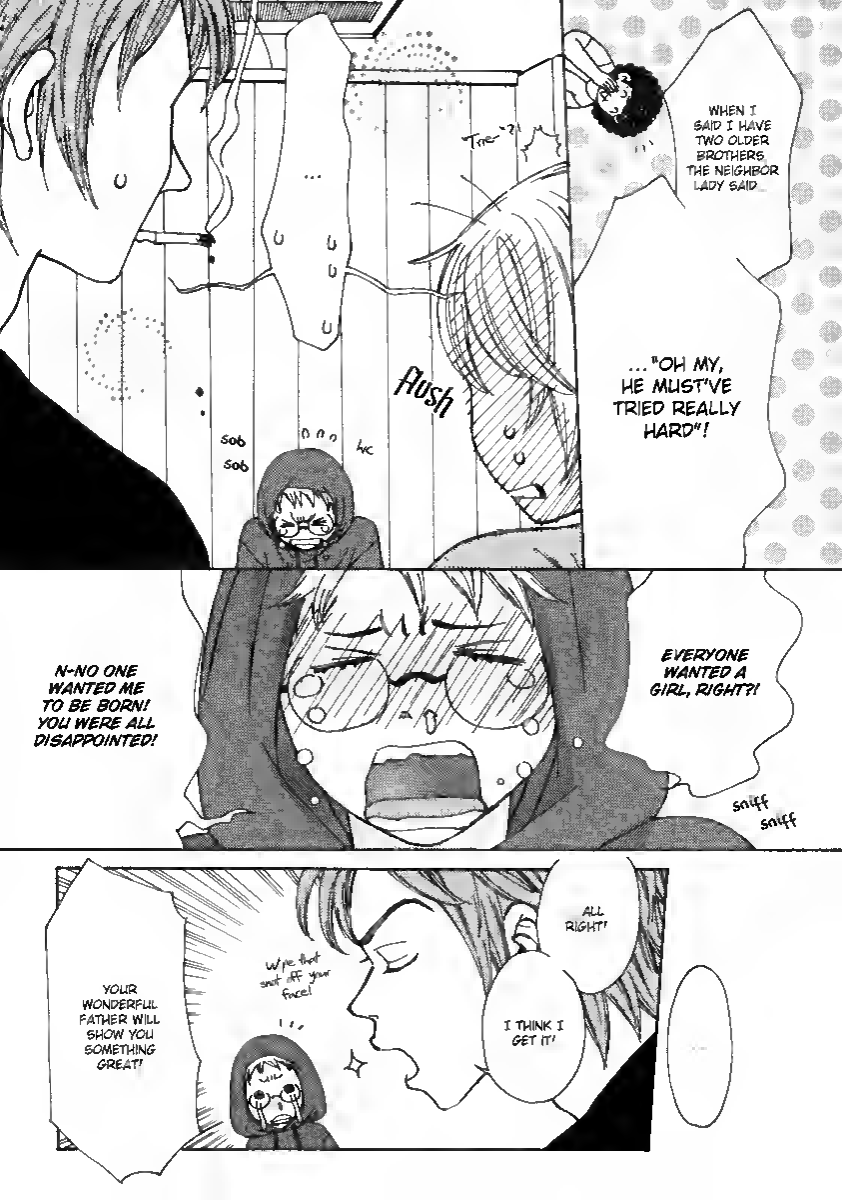
AAAAH!
HUH?
EH.
AH...
I'M FALLING.
OH,
AM I GOING TO DIE?
FALLING..
FALLING..
I'M SCARED!
SCARED
AH!
AH.
DIE.
DIE.
I'M SCARED
DIE.

DON'T YOU WANT TO LIVE?

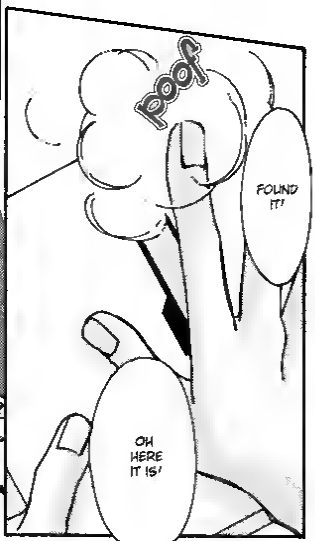
WHY DO YOU NOT WANT TO GO TO SCHOOL?!
I WON'T KNOW WHY IF YOU DON'T ANSWER ME!


I'M ASKING YOU!

AKANE
...
DON'T TELL ME THE OTHER KIDS ARE MAKING FUN OF YOU BECAUSE WE'RE A MOTHERLESS HOUSEHOLD?
DAMN, STUPID BRATS ...
Motherless household is a lot to
THEY'RE ALL...
NO, THAT'S NOT IT!
...CALLING ME A FAILURE!!
HUH?
I'M THE SMALLEST OUT OF THREE BROTHERS
SO THEY SAID THAT WE DIDN'T NEED ANY MORE BOYS!
Akane 3 years old
AND THEN THEY FOUND THE OLD PICTURES WHEN I WAS DRESSED AS A GIRL.
EH? OH, THAT WAS
We were just screwing around.
Hm, something like that did happen, didn't it
AND THEN,
She never Akane stands by this!!

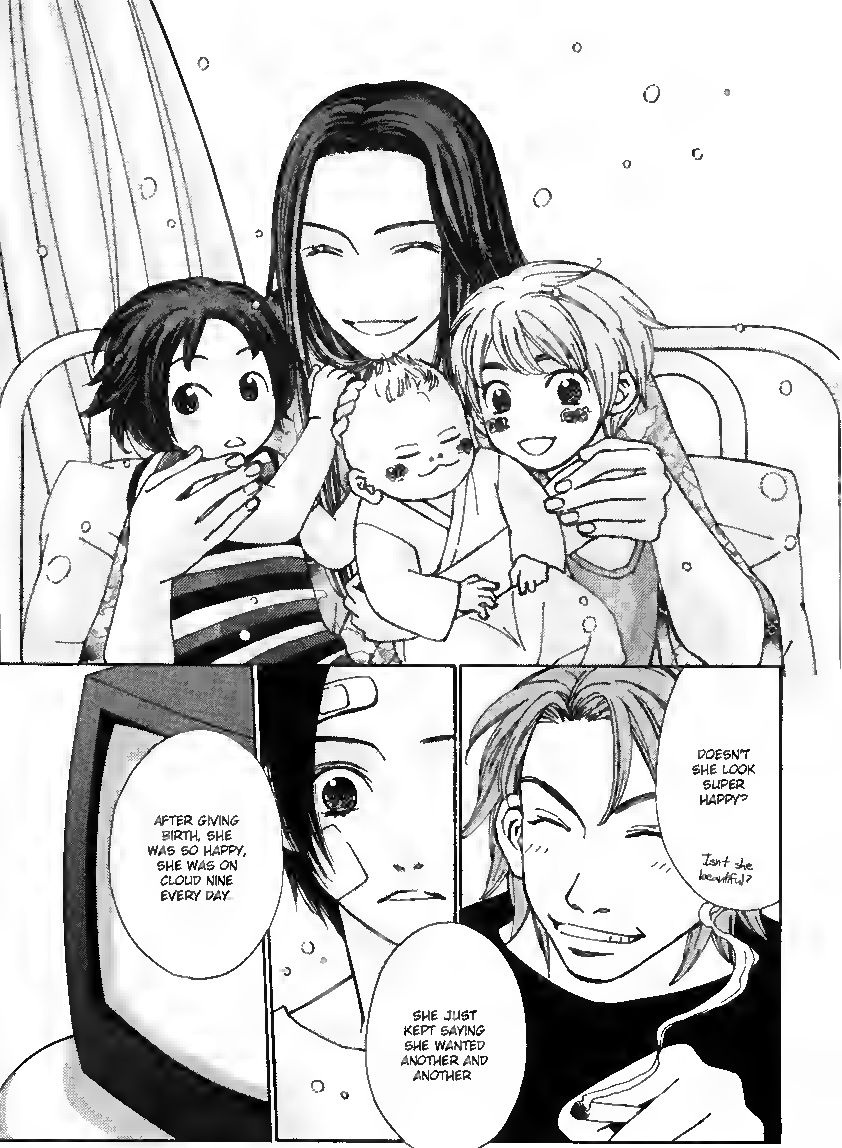

WHEN I SAID I HAVE TWO OLDER BROTHERS THE NEIGHBOR LADY SAID...
...
Tmc?
...
Rush
sob sob
...OH MY, HE MUST'VE TRIED REALLY HARD"!
N-NO ONE WANTED ME TO BE BORN! YOU WERE ALL DISAPPOINTED!
EVERYONE WANTED A GIRL, RIGHT?!
sniff sniff
ALL RIGHT!
I THINK I GET IT!
...
Wipe that snot off your face!
YOUR WONDERFUL FATHER WILL SHOW YOU SOMETHING GREAT!

OK, ALL YOU KIDS SIT DOWN
WHAT ARE WE WATCH-ING?
WHAT IS IT?
You're not hurting anywhere, are you?
OH NANAGEI, YOU'RE AWAKE?
YOU COME HERE FOR A BIT, TOO. LET'S ALL WATCH TOGETHER.


poof
FOUND IT!
OH HERE IT IS!

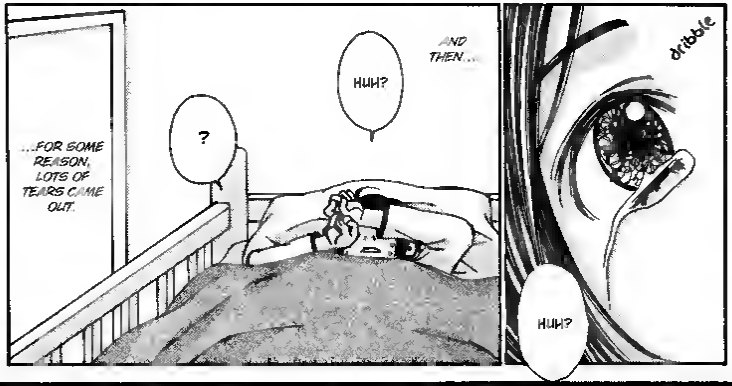
PAH
?
WAAAAH
A hockey?
WAAAAH
OH, THAT'S
THAT'S AKANE!

WHAT ?!
THAT'S ME?!
FLUSH
Waaaah
HA HA HA
OH MY,
HOW NOSTALGIC !!
Everyone looks like this at first!
IT'S MOM
OH!


DOESN'T SHE LOOK SUPER HAPPY?
Isn't she beautiful?
AFTER GIVING BIRTH, SHE WAS SO HAPPY, SHE WAS ON CLOUD NINE EVERY DAY.
SHE JUST KEPT SAYING SHE WANTED ANOTHER AND ANOTHER

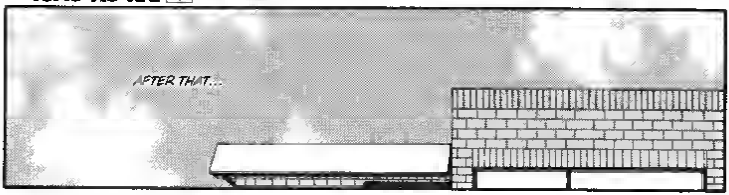
SHE WENT TO HEAVEN EARLY...
BUT I THINK GIVING BIRTH TO YOU THREE WAS HER GREATEST PRIDE AND JOY.
YOU RESEMBLE HER THE MOST.
DON'T YOU WANT TO LIVE?
SO IT DOESN'T MATTER IF YOU ARE A BOY OR GIRL
YOU SHOULD BE PROUD, TOO!
MM.
SPEAKING OF WHICH
NANASE!

I...
I GOT OVER IT COMPLETELY!!
You kids...
Gaaah
Gaaah
You're so annoying!
JUMP
AH!
YOU JUST SAID YOU HATED TOMATOES, TOO!
HEY! AGEHA!
BUT THESE TASTE BAD!
THAT NIGHT, I TRIED TO WHISPER...
I'D COMPLETELY FORGOTTEN
I'll do the thinking so let's make this a lifetime treasure!
All three of you are in here.
THANK YOU, MOM
TO HER BEFORE I FELL ASLEEP
...BUT MOM HAD GIVEN BIRTH TO ALL OF US LIKE THAT
I WONDER IF THE VOICE I HEARD WHEN I FELL FROM THE TREE
...WAS THE VOICE MOM USED TO TALK TO ME BEFORE

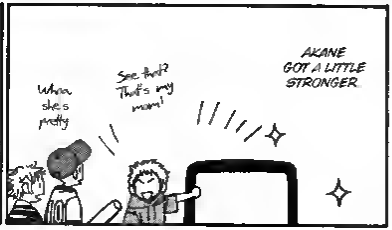


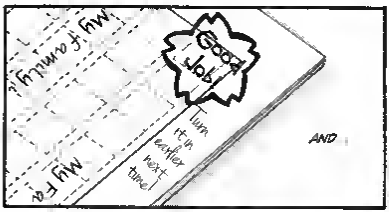
EVER SINCE THEN,

I STOPPED SLEEPWALKING.


AFTER THAT...

Damn it! I'll make him eat tomatoes too!
AGEHA GOT BETTER AT COOKING

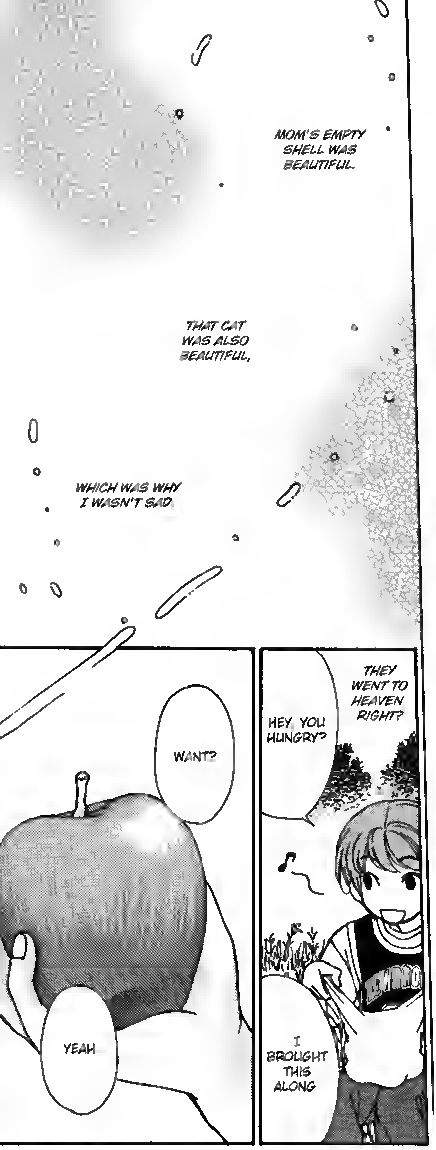

Whoa, she's pretty
See that? That's my mom!
AKANE GOT A LITTLE STRONGER


My family
Good Job!
Mom
I'll try earlier next time!
AND

What's wrong with the way I am?
What?
DAD WAS AS CAREFREE AS EVER

...AND...
HMM.

DO YOU ALWAYS THINK THAT WHEN YOU EAT, NANA-CHAN?
YEAH
I MEAN,
DIDN'T THEY WANT TO LIVE LONGER?
HMM ...
I THINK IT'S TRUE THEY DIDN'T WANT TO DIE.
...BUT I THINK THEY'D FORGIVE YOU IF YOU ACTUALLY EAT THEM.
I MEAN, EVERYONE LIVES BY EATING OTHER THINGS!


MOM'S EMPTY SHELL WAS BEAUTIFUL.
THAT CAT WAS ALSO BEAUTIFUL,
WHICH WAS WHY I WASN'T SAD.
YEAH. THAT'S WHY YOU HAVE TO TREASURE EVERYTHING YOU EAT!
YEAH...
THEY WENT TO HEAVEN RIGHT?
HEY, YOU HUNGRY?
I BROUGHT THIS ALONG
WANT?
YEAH

KAORIN SAVORED THE APPLE AS SHE ATE IT.
AND, LOOKING AT THAT,
I THOUGHT THE SIGHT WAS BEAUTIFUL